

THE ATHENEUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 4401.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1912.

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M. C. TAYLOR, Secretary, University Court.
University of Edinburgh, February 23, 1912.

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JOHN EDWARD LLOYD, M.A., Secretary and Registrar.
February 7, 1912.

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February 13, 1912.

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HENRY SAGAR,

Clerk to the Richmond Education Committee.
Town Hall, Richmond, Surrey, March 2, 1912.

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LITERATURE

A COURAGEOUS ESSAYIST.

ONE word of complaint first: this book of remarkable essays, so valuable for political and economic reference, has neither an index nor a table of contents. Even the page-headings are mere repetitions of titles, and the reader has no guide or assistance of any sort. If he wants to discover a fact or an opinion, he must hunt through the length and breadth of nearly 400 pages, and ten to one he gives up the search in despair and throws the book away. The volume is printed by the Yale University Press, and is sold here by the Oxford University Press. Yet this is the poor service done by two Universities to the memory of a distinguished professor!

We gather from Mr. Keller's Introduction of biography and reminiscence that Prof. Sumner had a strong personality. For thirty-seven years he was Professor of Political and Social Science at Yale, and during all that time he exercised a very potent influence over the students, and, indeed, over all who came within his wide range of activity. A thinker of such moral courage and intellectual honesty was sure to win that reward, at all events. It cannot be said that he made his opinions prevail, but, standing by them unmoved, he showed that the popular currents of the day did not coincide with all the forces of reason—perhaps not with the greatest forces. Courage was certainly the note of his

War, and Other Essays. By William Graham Sumner. (Oxford University Press.)

teaching. During years when the United States was swept by violent and often contradictory gusts of sentiment and enthusiasm, Sumner found himself almost invariably in opposition to the prevailing mood. He was in turn and together Anti-Protectionist, Anti-Socialist, and Anti-Imperialist. He showed the failure of "black brotherhood" and negro suffrage, but he denounced lynching with a vehemence only too rare, even in the Northern States. He was an ardent Free Trader from the very first, though the full weight of both political parties was against him. When Socialistic dreams, like Mr. Bellamy's, were eagerly accepted as practical proposals to be realized in a year or two, he stood firmly for individualism and distrust of State action and State officials. When his fellow-citizens were carried away by boastful excitement and the easy victory over the crumbling relics of Spain, he demonstrated that it was Spain which had really conquered them, for they had adopted the vain ideals that brought Spain to ruin. When the Press and politicians were raving about necessary expansion, inevitable destiny, and an American Empire overseas, he denounced the whole principle and application of Imperialism. When the British and American worlds had combined to extol the glory and romance of arms, he set himself to analyze with philosophic calm the real meaning and result of militarism and war.

We must call Sumner, then, a wholesome rather than a popular teacher—a physician rather than a confectioner, to adopt the Socratic distinction. Among English thinkers, he certainly came nearest to Herbert Spencer; and he might be called Spencer's disciple, though he regarded Spencer's method of generalization as too rapid and unsure. He chose Darwin rather as his type of scientific mind, and set before himself an ideal of economics and history that should follow a strictly scientific method, based on the slow collection of facts. Some of these essays, as, for instance, that on the Status of Women in the ancient world, consist almost entirely of collections of passages from various historical and literary authorities, without much attempt to draw any conclusion at all. It is in many ways an admirable method, avoiding the temptation to doctrine, formula, and rhetoric. Yet, careful as Sumner was in his examination of authorities, he was sometimes led astray by accepted errors and by a certain want of literary perception or training—a want equally remarkable in Herbert Spencer himself. In that same essay upon the Status of Women, for instance, he quotes Antigone as saying, "We must remember we are only women and cannot strive with men. We are under authority." From that detached and ironic quotation no one would suppose that the whole play turns upon a woman's intuitive perception of a higher law, and her own rebellion against the authority she is here represented as upholding. Similarly, in his string of quotations from Euripides, he cites several passages on which the poet's reputation as a woman-

hater was founded. He cites some of the contrary passages also, but he says nothing of the dramatic significance of either set. He treats them as though they were as detached as the Ten Commandments; and of the profound sympathy with "the race of women" revealed in nearly all the poet's tragedies he does not give a hint.

Such criticism may appear rather outside the scope of political science, but it shows how misleading a guide even the bare collection of apparently scientific facts and historical statements may become. Like statistics, they can be made to prove almost anything; genius is shown in the discovery of what they really do prove. Sumner certainly could boast a vein of this conclusive power, though he was very cautious about using it. He possessed the balancing mind of the academic. He refused the smallest confidence to popular cries or accepted catchwords. While denouncing militarism, he carefully admits all that may be said in favour of war as an instrument for consuming obsolete rubbish and supplying a needed ferment to the world. He denies that vast wealth is necessarily harmful in private hands. He is an examiner rather than a preacher. He questions the use even of such words as "progress" and "advancement." He is seldom quite sure that "reform" is either possible or advantageous. In one of the very few passages in which his clear and powerful style rises a little above its usual restraint, he writes:—

"If this poor old world is as bad as they say, one more reflection may check the zeal of the headlong reformer. It is at any rate a tough old world. It has taken its trend and curvature and all its twists and tangles from a long course of formation. All its wry and crooked gnarls and knobs are therefore stiff and stubborn. If we puny men by our arts can do anything at all to straighten them, it will only be by modifying the tendencies of some of the forces at work, so that, after a sufficient time, their action may be changed a little, and slowly the lines of movement may be modified. This effort, however, can at most be only slight, and it will take a long time. In the meantime spontaneous forces will be at work, compared with which our efforts are like those of a man trying to deflect a river, and these forces will have changed the whole problem before our interferences will have time to make themselves felt."

But this intellectual scepticism, sometimes almost approaching the counsels of despair, never made Sumner hesitate in his condemnation of outrage or error, no matter what unpopularity his opposition might bring on himself. It gave, indeed, a strength to his decisive utterances, as often happens when a sceptical or moderate man takes a strong line at last. We may quote a few examples. Of the lynching of negroes he wrote:—

"It would be a disgrace to us if amongst us men should burn a rattlesnake or a mad dog. The badness of the victim is not an element in the case at all. Torture and burning are forbidden, not because the victim is not bad enough, but because we are too good."

Of war he writes :—

"It is evident that men love war; when two hundred thousand men in the United States volunteer in a month for a war with Spain which appeals to no sense of wrong against their country, and to no other strong sentiment of human nature, when their lives are by no means monotonous or destitute of interest, and where life offers chances of wealth and prosperity, the pure love of adventure and war must be strong in our population. Europeans who have to do military service have no such enthusiasm for war as war."

On Socialism :—

"I maintain that it is at the present time a matter of patriotism and civic duty to resist the extension of State interference. It is one of the proudest results of political growth that we have reached the point where individualism is possible. Nothing could better show the merit and value of the institutions which we have inherited than the fact that we can afford to play with all these socialistic and semi-socialistic absurdities."

Finally, speaking of the sudden passion for Imperialism in the United States, he writes :—

"The sum of the matter is that colonization and territorial extension are burdens, not gains."

Whether we agree with them or not, such sentences show a steadfast, if perhaps a rather inflexible, mind. It certainly was a mind of absolute intellectual honesty and courage, medicinal rather than soothing, and in every way wholesome for the present world.

George the Third and Charles Fox: the Concluding Part of the American Revolution. By Sir George Otto Trevelyan. Vol. I. (Longmans & Co.)

PURISTS may complain that they do not get very much in this volume about George III. or Charles Fox; and the title, as implying a continuous clash of wills between the two, is no doubt a little misleading. The general reader, however, has no cause for grumbling, since he will encounter Sir George Trevelyan in his happiest mood. No man has a defter knack of extracting from the eighteenth century its brightest and most salient characteristics, while passing lightly over the coarseness and brutality which Hogarth drew and Savage wrote down. Sir George by no means abides by the strict canons of biography, nor does he exactly produce history, whether judged by English or German standards. But he catches the spirit of the age, and by a diligent use of pamphlets and newspaper files he imparts to his pages a warmth of colouring which more scientific writers generally contrive to miss. Nothing could be better than his description of the preparations for the defence of Plymouth in 1779, derived from the columns of the daily journals. The whole scene is displayed: the Cornish "tinnars" leaving their mines and marching off to dig

trenches and demolish houses which obstructed the line of fire, the dispatch of the French prisoners to Exeter, and the arrival of the gentlemen-volunteers from London. The same finish of treatment marks the sketch of social habits interpolated by Sir George into a chapter on Charles Fox's Parliamentary position after his breach with Lord North. It does thorough justice to the great English landowners: "Aristocrats of the right sort, they were fiery, if not very laborious politicians; well-read gentlemen for the most part, and sportsmen every inch of them." They knew their classics, they stocked their libraries with the best editions of modern works, and they kept a good, if plain, table. They were to be seen at their best on their country estates; as Sir George neatly puts it, "the drawing-room at White's or Almack's, after the hazard-table had been lighted up, was no paradise for men of sense and intellect."

George III. receives no quarter in Sir George Trevelyan's pages. Where some can discover certain qualities of royal constancy, he can only descry narrow-minded obstinacy; and he derides the "foolish" and "most cruel policy" of prolonging the war with the American Colonies by holding on to the coast, and relying upon the play of faction in Congress, and disappointment and discontent on the population. Yet on p. 302 we read:

"A bankrupt, faithless, republic would be a novelty in the political world, and would appear among respectable nations like a common prostitute among chaste matrons." So Congress proclaimed to the world in a public address of September, 1779, and none the less in March, 1780, it calmly passed a law enacting that forty dollars in paper were thenceforward to be the equivalent of one dollar in specie. In other words the American Government declared itself bankrupt to the extent of nineteen shillings and sixpence in the pound. That announcement killed the public credit, swept the market bare of cash, and demolished every vestige of commercial utility that still attached itself to the Government paper. The evil consequences fell with intense severity upon the comfort, the discipline, and the efficiency of the army. Congress found it all but impossible to enlist fresh troops, and very difficult to feed and clothe those whom it had already. The soldiers in the Continental camps, except that they spent more nights in bed, were hardly better off than at Valley Forge."

In other words, the policy of husbanding resources and watching opportunities had a good deal to be said for it. The steadfastness of New England remained unshaken, but disintegration was at work in the south, and Cornwallis's Carolina campaigns came within a reasonable measure of success until, through Clinton's fatal inaction, he was driven into a corner at Yorktown.

But we are anticipating events which Sir George Trevelyan will treat in his second volume, already, as we are glad to learn, more than half written. Our present point is that there was nothing in the situation on the American continent, as it stood in 1778, to justify an abandonment of the war, even after

France had taken sides with the United States. Lord North's Conciliation Bill, though hopelessly belated, was sincerely meant, and after the rupture with France, there was nothing for it but to fight on. There was every reason for a change of Government, but, wedded to his system, the King persisted in retaining against their wills about as incompetent a set of Ministers as ever mismanaged the affairs of the country.

In the conduct of Charles Fox during the years covered by this volume Sir George Trevelyan has an easier case, and presents it with remarkable skill. Though his language ran to extravagance, the young man played a patriotic part in denouncing the incompetence of the Lords of the Admiralty in general, and of the Earl of Sandwich in particular. The First Lord's persistent attempts to conceal the real weakness of the Navy, both in ships and men, formed an ample reason for the votes of censure hurled at him by Charles Fox. Yet the King upheld Sandwich at all hazards, forcing Lord North to see that defaulters from divisions were "strongly spoke to." His deplorable partiality is acutely explained by Sir George. George III. found in Sandwich a Minister exactly to his mind, "subservient in the Closet, masterful and overbearing in the Cabinet, and a fearless bully in debate." He was therefore kept safely in office in spite of the scandal which came to light when Hackman murdered Miss Ray, and though the outbreak of war with France and Spain rendered a stronger administration at the Admiralty imperative. Charles Fox did his best for naval efficiency both within and without the House. He seldom appeared to greater advantage than when he posted down to Saltram, eagerly learnt whatever the officers had to tell him, and arranged with Jervis of the Foudroyant to be taken on board if there was a prospect of a battle. Later in life, after long opposition had soured him, Fox rejoiced over the discomfiture of his country's allies.

Sir George Trevelyan's descriptions of naval battles are vivid, and the story of Ushant and the court-martial of Keppel which followed that engagement has never been more happily told. We agree with him that Palliser was no coward when he ignored the signals of his superior officer, and that personal enmity combined with the malice instilled into him by "the Bedfords" while he was at the Admiralty suggested his unworthy conduct. But Keppel's magnanimity was of the Roman type; when Palliser blundered on to his own undoing in the House of Commons, those who heard his reply "thought," as Horace Walpole puts it, "his homely figure was shot up into heroic stature," and his bearing at the court-martial was a model of generosity: "Mr. President, as that alteration in Capt. Hood's log-book affects my life, I shall ask him no more questions."

A hero like Keppel may present few difficulties to an eloquent writer, but it is otherwise with a dark and devious

character like Benedict Arnold. Here, again, Sir George Trevelyan has succeeded to admiration. We need not stop to inquire into the exact pertinence of the chapter setting forth Arnold's attempted betrayal of West Point and the hanging of the unfortunate André in a work which began, at any rate, by being a biography of Charles Fox. Sir George Trevelyan evidently enjoyed writing this chapter, and he displays much insight into Arnold's motives. Arnold despaired of the Republic, and

"in the latter part of the eighteenth century the example of General Monk had still a singular and powerful attraction for ambitious men of the sword. In France, under the Directorate, when a reaction against the Jacobin rule had set in with irresistible force, the admirers of more than one Republican general fondly expected that their hero would consent to play a part analogous to that of the cool-headed and stout-hearted soldier who took the tide at the turn, and landed Charles the Second safely on the throne. There then were Royalists, and many Royalists, who carried infatuation to such a height, and ignorance of personal character to such a depth, as to entertain a hope that Napoleon Bonaparte had possibly made the Eighteenth Brumaire in the interest of his legitimate sovereign."

Dumouriez, Moreau, and Pichegru were, of course, all more or less bitten with the idea of leading a restoration. Much later, the same delusion floated before the bemused vision of Bazaine. But the deliberation with which Arnold planned the surrender of West Point, and the eagerness with which he took up arms against his own countrymen, are unique in the annals of treachery.

Finland: the Land of a Thousand Lakes.
By Ernest Young. With 32 Illustrations. (Chapman & Hall.)

MR. YOUNG is a warm admirer of Finland, and his book is so well written as to infect the reader with his own enthusiasm. He has given us a charming description of her lakes and forests, and of the customs and amusements, the arts and industries, of her honest and hospitable people. His illustrations, too, are good; but some views of scenery deserve to have the locality specified. He has written, he tells us, with an eye both to the possible traveller and the general reader; but for the sake of the latter he has "deliberately discarded anything like a guide-book arrangement." The traveller, however, though he will find the book replete with interesting information, will look in vain for any hints for a projected tour. He must go for these to Paul Waineman's excellent volume, or to Mrs. Tweedie's lively account of her adventures; for each of those works contains a good map, which Mr. Young has unfortunately omitted. But the present book, though largely the fruit of the writer's observation, is in no sense a narrative of travel. The following sketch of the "running" of the famous Pyhakoski Rapid, which we quote only in part, makes us regret his self-imposed limitations:—

"The velocity increases from minute to minute; the surface of the stream has a visible slope, it is as though part of the Atlantic were rolling down an incline.... And then, just as you are about getting used to the whirling perilous pleasure of it all, the river makes a sudden bend, a rock impedes the passage, a whirlpool waits for you on the other side of the rock.... To avoid the barrier amid this howling torrent of water and at this speed seems well-nigh impossible. The boatman leans upon his oar, and the boat makes straight for the cliffs as though purposely to dash itself to fragments. Almost as the nose of the boat touches the bank, the whole weight of the pilot is thrown on the pole, and the craft sweeps lightly as a cork out into the mass of seething, boiling foam that swings itself everlastingly from side to side in a mad and ceaseless passion of hate."

The details supplied concerning the country and people are of the deepest interest; for they show that the Finns have made remarkable progress during the past century, in spite of their political troubles in recent years. Finland's principal wealth lies in her forests, which cover more than half the country; and, as in Norway and Sweden, the development of scientific forestry has arrested the heedless waste which threatened their destruction. There is an excellent account of farming operations and village life; but the writer scarcely seems aware that many of the customs which he describes at length are in no way peculiar to the Finns, but are common to the whole of Scandinavia. He gives in rough outline a history of the people, which in its earliest stage is open to some criticism. He tells us that Tacitus mentions the Finns; but he adds in the same breath that from their costume and habits these "Fenni" may have been Lapps. It is evident they could not have been the ancestors of the modern Finns, if the immigration of the latter took place, as he states, about the ninth century. Dr. Nansen, in his recent book, thinks that the "Fenni" cannot certainly be identified with any modern stock.

A few pages are devoted to the recent misfortunes of Finland; and Mr. Young justly considers that the restoration of her constitution in 1905, as a result of the sudden, but perfectly orderly "strike" of a whole nation, is "one of the most astounding events of modern times." On the exact details of the constitution he is less clear. On one page he tells us that "the imposition of taxes has been removed entirely from the control of the Diet"; on another, that "the Grand Duke cannot impose any new taxes without the consent of the Diet." The latter body has attracted considerable attention in Europe; for it is not only largely elected by female suffrage, but also contains a few women members, who are described as "mostly of middle age, grave, and even portentously solemn." But, though females compose 53 per cent of the electorate, they form only 8 per cent of the Diet. A male member is of opinion that "they are a nuisance, but only a little nuisance." The chapters on Finnish literature, music,

and art are full of valuable matter, which had not been previously accessible. Education is universal and highly prized; but the Finn is frequently regarded as stolid and slow, needing "a petard in his back to make him move." That this view is in the main unjust is shown by the last chapter, on 'Social and Economic Movements.' There we read that the Home Research Society—which is less than twenty years old, and deals with the natural history, physiography, archaeology, and folklore of the country—counts among its eager workers many labourers and peasants, as well as scholars and professors. Mr. Young says truly that an appeal to the British agricultural labourer to take part in the collection of scientific and historical data would meet with little or no response—indeed, he would be incapable of understanding the aims of such a movement. Another society—the Ungdomsforbening (Young People's Society)—endeavours to improve the intellectual and social life of the villages. In speaking of "the unutterable dullness of the English village in winter," Mr. Young forgets that our labourers are too tired after a heavy day to care for more than the newspaper and the village club. In a country where winter darkness permits little work there is far more energy to spare.

NEW NOVELS.

The Forest on the Hill. By Eden Phillpotts.
(John Murray.)

THE first and obvious fault of 'The Forest on the Hill' is its inordinate length, which must amount to somewhere near 150,000 words. Its pace is fatiguingly slow, and the long conversations of persons but little relevant to the main issues would have been better omitted, although they are good in themselves. So, too, the many pages of description lose their value through their very length, and retard the reader disagreeably. Of course, as might be expected, the characters are well defined and (with one serious exception) lifelike; and, equally of course, powerful and passionate situations are set against the wild backgrounds that the author knows so well. The one character whose truth to life seems questionable is an otherwise straightforward young woman, who, yielding to threats of disinheritance from her lover's uncle, gives up the man she loves, denying him any explanation, and, unable to support her loss, proceeds to starve herself to death; but, on her rescue and recovery, speedily transfers her love to a man whom she had for years steadily refused, and ceases entirely to care about her first choice. Of course, a woman of weak, fickle nature might have behaved thus; but this woman is of a fine, strong character, neither timid nor mercenary, and Mr. Phillpotts does not succeed in persuading us either that she cheated her first love for the sake of benefits to him which he despised, or that she was capable, while she knew him living, of being happy with a second.

The Golightlys, Father and Son. By Laurence North. (Martin Secker.)

THE rivalries in the British Press offer a rich satiric harvest, and in the Procrustean adaptation of writers, enamoured of ideals incompatible with journalistic success, to the iron framework of popular organs is that tragedy without dignity which a satirist's graver mood demands. That which is at once gigantic and trivial, unimaginative and speculative, pachydermatous and professionally sensitive, tempts even a critic to limn its features. How, then, does it affect a novelist who accepts it for an inspiration?

On the whole, Laurence North is to be congratulated. The curious parallelism between the periodicals issued by the two magnates who, imitating Sir George Newnes, surpassed him in daring and the noise of their "splashes," appears to have so impressed him as to impel him to appropriate it for fiction and invent a dramatic reason for it. However that may be, his novel is an admirable presentation of the humour and tragedy of the market-place where words are bought and sold. But he has taken care to please lovers of drama as well as likers of satire, and he deserves praise for the fact that, though he indulges in three ironic catastrophes, their romantic value justifies them, while their plausibility does credit to his craftsmanship.

The spirit of regret is almost as impulsive in him as that of satire. Loving the serenity of the scholar, the distinction of the classic note in a volubly commercial age, he is haunted by visions of those who have left not only Oxford, but also the tranquil height of wisdom and art which it inadequately but charmingly symbolizes, to choose the arena where thought is mean and, in Matthew Arnold's too noble phrase, "ignorant armies clash by night." In the character called Dorian Stepney our author realizes the tragedy of a finer spirit self-condemned to intellectual stultification at the call of Mammon. He and the two women who cast a glamour over his life of editorial toil are excellently drawn, and so is the mentor and patron who tells him:—

"You can't create public interest. You can only follow it up, give it a loud voice, and then claim to have created it."

The author deserves a liberal measure of that interest. He has produced an exceptionally bright and sparkling novel, in which tragedy, apart from one harrowing incident, makes an effect like wit.

Almayne of Mainfort. By R. H. Gretton. (Grant Richards.)

FROM the critic's point of view this is a novel of more than common interest. Its faults are considerable; most of them, perhaps, to be accounted for by the fact that the writer has not hit upon a good idea for his plot. The story turns upon the ownership of a patch of London slum

intersected by railway-lines, and the competing parties are Almayne, scion of an ancient, but somewhat impoverished house in the North of England, and a mysterious old man with a daughter. The legal transactions are somewhat hazy; and from the cattle-reiving exploit, with which we start out, to Almayne's return home with his wife, there are too many incidents which send the reader off on a false scent—a proceeding never fully justified by the further progress of affairs. Superficially, the author's method reminds us now of 'Broke of Covenden,' now of 'Sir Richard Calmady'; while we seem to detect, beneath these presumably chance resemblances, the influence of a study of Balzac. Indeed, the view of society, the characterization, and the emphasis in the dialogue, strike us as being in many respects more French than English. This is not intended as disparagement, nor as a denial of originality, but rather as an expression of our sense that it is real work that the writer offers us. His technique is better than his invention, or better than his present luck; and he has plenty of power, if he can but find the true field for its exercise.

The personages—with the exception of one villainous little lawyer—are all of the clean, gallant type, gentle, yet superior; and the best thing in the book is the brief, but lyrical love episode.

"THE PEOPLE'S BOOKS."

THE idea of "The People's Books" (T. C. & E. C. Jack) was, we understand, conceived before "The Home University Library" was announced. It is certainly a remarkable enterprise in the way of cheapness, the little volumes being bound in green cloth and well printed. We think, however, that the limits within which the contributors have had to work have proved a serious handicap to their efficiency. Prof. Herford has under 90 pages for his *Shakespeare*. It is a sound piece of work, but "makes no pretence to even proximate completeness," and omits some of the information we expect to see. Why does not the Professor say, for instance, that the collected edition of the Plays and Poems put forth by Heming and Condell in 1623 is everywhere known as the First Folio, and add, since there is room on the page, how far it is the chief authority for Shakespeare's text? The Bibliography, a matter of prime importance in such a series, is meagre, omitting, for instance, Sir Walter Raleigh's fine book. Mr. A. Ferrers Howell in *Dante: his Life and Work* has a full and excellent Appendix of books for students, and, going less into critical detail than Prof. Herford, has made a survey which should be really useful as an introduction to the subject.

Mr. O'Neill's *Pure Gold* suffers from being arranged in alphabetical order. There are not generally more than two or three pieces from well-known poets, but they are usually either too hackneyed or too little known. The one is not fair to the reader; the other to the poet. Swinburne, for instance, is represented by the first chorus from 'Atalanta' and the dedicatory sonnet of 'Tristram of Lyonesse.' Otherwise this is an admirable anthology. The suggestions for further reading are brief, but sensible.

Mary Queen of Scots played no great part in national history; she is essentially a romantic figure, and this side of her has been happily emphasized by Mrs. O'Neill, who may be depended on for accuracy in her background of history. Mr. Coxon's *Roman Catholicism* is a straightforward account, mainly derived from unimpeachable sources, such as the General Councils of the Church.

In *Women's Suffrage: a Short History of a Great Movement*, Mrs. Fawcett has made good use of the inadequate space at her disposal. She might, however, have filled the page headed 'List of New Books,' if only by adding "and Periodicals," the more so as her booklet is useful rather on the historical side than on that of "history in the making." The few pages on recent developments are already out of date, especially in regard to the inconsistency of Cabinet Ministers. Recognition has been accorded to others whose methods differ from the author's, but we should have preferred, in spite of Mrs. Fawcett's broad-mindedness, to have a chapter from one of the Militants.

Dr. Julius Cohen's Preface admits that some who take up his *Organic Chemistry* will probably lose themselves in its pages, and the fear seems well founded. The subject is not only too vast, but also too technical, to be treated in a hundred small pages, and even to guess at the meaning of what is here discussed requires considerable previous study. The system of notation adopted will be unfamiliar to the general reader, who will gather little from the few words which Prof. Cohen devotes to its explanation. It was discussed at length by Prof. Norman Collie in a special article in *The Athenæum* some years ago. On the whole, organic chemistry is not a matter that can be usefully summarized in a popular handbook.

The Science of the Stars will convey to the attentive reader an enormous amount of information in a small space, being clear and abreast of current knowledge. It takes the student back to the starting-point of the science, and carries him on to the various lines of research that have opened up from it, briefly indicating the extent and contents of the wide field of astronomy to-day. The chapter on 'The Members of the Solar System' is wonderfully comprehensive, especially on the study of the surfaces of the sun and Mars, with which Mr. Maunder's name is closely associated.

Mr. J. A. S. Watson's *Heredity* can be no more than an introduction, but his survey of the subject is accurate, and written in a simple manner which will stimulate those who are interested to wider reading.

Botany: the Modern Study of Plants, by Dr. M. C. Stopes, attempts to deal, *inter alia*, with morphology, anatomy, cytology, physiology, ecology, and palaeontology. The author has both verve and knowledge, and has done as well as could be expected; but far too much has been attempted.

In *The Principles of Electricity* Mr. Norman R. Campbell does not seem to have decided for what class of readers he is writing. The first half states at some length, and in an elementary manner, the fundamental ideas of electrostatics, and the remainder is devoted to general theory. The theoretical treatment disqualifies the book for the beginner, while elementary questions—such as What is an ohm?—remain unanswered.

PHILOSOPHY AND LOGIC.

THE Bergsonian philosophy, which was somewhat slow to cross the Channel, and did not, in fact, arrive in this country very long before the philosopher himself, has, even as he did, made itself thoroughly at home amongst us. We recently reviewed two short studies of his writings, Mr. Lindsay's (*Athen.*, July 22, 1911) and Mr. Solomon's (Jan. 13, 1912), the one more critical and technical, the other more expository and popular, but both excellent after their own manner. Already there appear two more essays, differing in scope from each other in much the same way, namely, *An Examination of Professor Bergson's Philosophy*, by David Balsillie (Williams & Norgate), and *Henri Bergson: the Philosophy of Change*, by H. Wildon Carr (T. C. & E. C. Jack).

We wish to say nothing harsh of Mr. Balsillie, who is always thoughtful, and, in some of his criticisms, decidedly penetrating. In the literary presentation of his argument, however, he seems to us to fall between two stools. If his book is addressed to the general reader, as would seem to be the case, it offends by an over-free use of the current jargon of the schools. If, on the other hand, its final appeal is to the trained thinker—not that he, any more than the general reader, is tolerant of jargon—the absence of exact references to M. Bergson's writings constitutes a serious defect. Capable as the work is, it might, we are convinced, be rendered at least twice as effective by thorough recasting. Full of overflowing of his subject, the writer plunges headlong into the tangled tale of his disagreements with M. Bergson, without offering any preliminary survey of the positions he is about to attack. Nor does he make his own standpoint clear at the start, as every critic should do who hopes to carry his reader along with him. Not till we reached the final chapters was our suspicion verified that the Hegelian conception of evolution was being throughout contrasted with the Bergsonian to the disadvantage of the latter. As must be laid to the credit of other modern Hegelians—for instance, Lord Haldane—Mr. Balsillie is in touch with the progress of science, and, with all his respect for an absolute logic, is not afraid to plunge into cosmological speculations of the more concrete kind. We confess, however, that his hints about the action of contraries in the constitution of matter, or about the co-operation of contrary tendencies in the ascent from lower to higher forms of organic being, do not suffice to reveal to us herein a dialectic process "shedding verisimilitude on the Hegelian doctrine that thought and being are one." For the rest, he undoubtedly convicts M. Bergson of certain inconsistencies, such as may well be incidental to the development of a philosophy, the last word of which is not yet spoken. Some of Mr. Balsillie's most interesting results follow, by the way, from his examination of M. Bergson's very recent utterances made in the course of his English lecturing-tour. It becomes manifest that the philosopher of evolution has at present paid scant attention to certain aspects of his many-sided theme, notably to the ethical implications of that *élan de vie* which reaches its highest manifestation in the life of man.

Of Mr. Wildon Carr's work we have only pleasant things to say. It would almost seem to be the case nowadays that the value of a book stands in inverse ratio to its price. M. Bergson, who himself read through the proofs, must have been delighted to find his views sketched and interpreted so simply

and concisely. The little book is a masterpiece of plain English. Notwithstanding, we would reiterate the piece of advice which Mr. Carr in the Preface offers to his readers, namely, that if they are interested, and therefore desire to become genuine students of the Bergsonian philosophy, their bounden duty is to go on to tackle M. Bergson in the original.

A New Logic. By Chas. Mercier. (Heinemann.)—"There is no new thing under the sun," said the Preacher. "Perhaps," adds Heine, "the sun himself, who now beams so imposingly, is only an old warmed-up jest." A claim to novelty rouses admiration, but provokes scepticism. One of the boldest of the philosophers called his system only a new name for some old ways of thinking. Not so Dr. Mercier. As Euclid was superseded yesterday, he means 'A New Logic' to supersede the logic of to-day. But the moral of his parallel is two-edged. Lobatchewski, Riemann, and Poincaré have shown that Euclidian geometry is not the only possible system, but to limit Euclid's application is not to supersede him. This is a bad start. But with Dr. Mercier's next conclusion we disagree even more profoundly. He holds that logic is not only a science, but also an art, and an art in the sense that it is practical. He makes much of the futility of the old logic. Does he think that his own, or any other system, will be any better? Only a pedant could hope to aid man's reasoning by a study of the conditions to which sound thinking must conform. M. Jourdain talked prose without knowing it, and mankind reasoned validly before 'A New Logic' appeared, though its author claims that the subject is there correctly stated for the first time.

Dr. Mercier's system appears to us to confuse throughout the spheres of logic and psychology. It does not matter to logic how we pass from one proposition to another, or how from particulars we arrive at a universal. What logic has to do is to inquire how our conclusion is valid if we do so. Induction seeks a general principle underlying the particulars, and whether they be few or many before we perceive the principle, it matters not, for the number of instances, though psychologically important, is not the guarantee of our conclusion. Dr. Mercier so far ignores this fact that he looks on simple enumeration as the criterion of certainty in such matters. He cannot abide Aristotle; but Aristotle's account of the relation of *αἰσθησις* to *νοῦς* contains for us the substance of a truer view. When induction has arrived at the principle it seeks, conclusions can be drawn with syllogistic necessity. We do not pretend that we consciously follow this method in actual life, but it is nevertheless a condition of the validity of thought. As for exalting induction at the expense of deduction, one might as well exalt multiplication at the expense of division.

Dr. Mercier disdains all reference to metaphysics, and therefore rejects all modern views of the judgment. Analyzing the proposition into two terms and the ratio between them, he leaves us in doubt whether subject is distinct from its relation to object, or object from its relation to subject, or relation from both subject and object. He seems to have mistaken grammar for logic, and lost sight of the unity of the judgment. Nor does his system provide for any proof or necessity in thought. With wearisome iteration he speaks of the appeal to experience. But, whether he likes it or not, the "common-

sense" view of the world of experience is of the nature of a metaphysical construction, with difficulties of its own. Has he forgotten Berkeley, and cleared his mind of Kant?

A word as to "Traditional Logic." Dr. Mercier includes in this compendious title nearly every thinker from Aristotle to the present day. But he objects most strongly to a system which is less Aristotelian than scholastic. Unfortunately, his opposition leads him to cover the same ground, and so to share the infertility of what he combats. He cannot hate such barren rubbish as the "Palestra Logica" more intensely than we do. The Predicables move us not. Fesapo and Felapton our soul abhors. But all this is nearly extinct nowadays, and 'A New Logic' will hardly fill the gap. It is more like the epitaph of a process long complete.

FRENCH BOOKS.

Robert Herrick. By Floris Delattre. (Paris, Félix Alcan.)—Few modern critical works are so thorough, discerning, and complete as this study of Herrick and his place in lyric poetry. The biography is treated first, and our approach to Herrick is historical. Here the book is erudite and solid, bringing out many new and important facts as to Herrick's life, and passing in the second part to a synthetic and analytical treatment of special aspects of his art. It has thus a double object, namely, that of material certitude and psychological reconstruction. But when the elements which compose the work of Herrick have been explained, it remains to determine the quality of the æsthetic emotion which it provokes, and which constitutes its essential interest. This is comprehensible only by personal sympathy, and it is his sympathy and insight, which lift M. Delattre's study high above the ordinary level of criticism, and give it exceptional vitality.

It is essentially as a poet of society that M. Delattre envisages Herrick, a poet loving the town, its company, and all things urbane. Further, it is this play, unceasing and changing, of elegant, fine sentiment, this alternation of polite ideas and poetic fancy, which is the mainspring of Herrick's charm—"nuance, irisé souvent comme le nacre."

M. Delattre supplies a series of close and discerning critical studies on the various aspects of the 'Hesperides,' bringing out the underlying egotism and paganism of Herrick's creed. It is rare that Herrick pierces below the surface, and in his treatment of the peasants of Devonshire he is often merely brutal. With Rabelais the riot and intensity of animal spirits sweep before it the grossness of observation. The impression given by Herrick's personal powers M. Delattre finds to be that of perpetual contradiction and antithesis. Lacking interior resonance, the sentiment is of short duration. Woman is a gracious pastime destined for man's pleasure, yet side by side with this irreverent conception of love is an amorous sentimentality, tender and delicate. The ingenuousness of the imagination tempers or transmutes the vehemence of desire. The charm of the 'Hesperides,' M. Delattre finds, is in these "fresh and fragrant mistresses," so English with their blonde tresses and clear complexions, the frankness and their candour, whose faces turn to us from the pages, smiling beneath boughs of spring blossom, or surrounded by garlands of jonquils and roses. If it be true that Herrick was unable

to rise to the height of passion and emotion, and in the play of the imagination the heart has little place. Still no one has been more subtly or gracefully in love with love itself.

Dweller in the tangible, he lives in a walled and secluded garden full of exquisite sensations, vernal freshness, and spring blossom. Like the sentimentalist, he maintains untarnished his golden illusion. Nothing in the beauty of the exterior escapes him. His delicate nature, respondent to every shade of colour and breath of perfume, records its beauty and harmony with perfect expression. When youth is long departed he retains this childlike quality of freshness, which renders his inspiration light, fresh, and intangible. Poet of slight themes, he recognizes his limitations, and remains in his narrow domain without rival.

George Sand, sa Vie et ses Œuvres, 1838-48. By Wladimir Karénine. (Paris, Plon-Nourrit.)—M. Karénine, after an interval of several years, publishes the third volume of his study of George Sand. From 1838 to 1848 she lived in intimacy with Chopin and Pierre Leroux, and round her during this period radiate, appear and disappear, many famous representatives of politics, art, and science. She is at the height of her power, and each of her works is an event impatiently awaited.

M. Karénine, treating in a full and comprehensive manner the circumstances leading to the production of 'Consuelo,' 'La Comtesse de Rudolstadt,' 'Le Meunier d'Angibault,' 'La Mare au Diable,' and the whole series of rustic romances, reveals the veritable key to the understanding of George Sand's best period.

What stands out clear and in high relief in the book is the superhuman serenity which George Sand maintained in the midst of her difficult and melancholy circumstances. In spite of all she remained mistress of herself and her talent. To no one more than to M. Karénine is due the credit of elucidating her confused and elusive life.

Correspondance générale de Chateaubriand. Edited by Louis Thomas. Vol. I. (Champion, Paris.)—These letters have been expected to throw new light on Chateaubriand. How far they will do so is yet to be seen. The volume before us goes only to the year 1817, when Chateaubriand was forty-nine.

The figure which emerges is of a converted pagan, whose piety is the fruit of strangely mixed sources. His defence of religion in 'Le Génie du Christianisme' paid him well, but his practical use of it does not seem extensive. He is blasé at an early age, and requires to be stirred out of his depression by flattering friends.

Women, too, stimulate him. He throws a veil of innocence over tastes epicurean perhaps rather than amorous, and draws raw material from those who are willing to supply emotional experience. With Madame de Staël he seems at his best, most natural and least affected; with her he can throw off what he calls a normal sterility in the expression of sentiments.

His sincerity is an evasive quality. Thus on one occasion he avers that nothing but the hope of being of service to religion would have induced him to accept a post at Rome. Once there, he writes of "le scandale des mœurs"; his life is a hell; he can scarcely be persuaded to stay out his year. Yet, shortly after, his constant theme is a desire to return to end his days among the ruins of a bygone civilization. Truly, Job and Jeremiah are his familiar spirits; grief his element; tears his garment!

While he is in Rome his friend Madame de Beaumont dies. His letters to her relations, in spite of their theatrical tone, are exquisite in their revelation of a devotion deep and sincere while it lasted. He begs to be allowed to defray the cost of a monument to her memory; this necessitates the selling of personalty, and, amongst other things, of one of his carriages. According to an ancient law, consumption is accounted in Rome a contagious disease, and, as Madame de Beaumont had driven sometimes in them, no one will buy.

At 34 this aged young man considers that he has passed the summit of life. The joys of fame are outbalanced by persecution and vexation. The best men of letters are his friends, and he gets his meed of admirers' epistles, but his championship of the faith will never be forgiven; the other side will never be content till they have banished him a second time.

The Breton aristocrat never becomes the sincere democrat. In vain one looks for signs of interest outside the affairs of his own class. Important public events are rarely mentioned. A better man of business than the literary genius often is, he rarely appears ungloved—never en déshabille.

M. Thomas's work of collation is a necessary and honourable task, and he is fulfilling it with that Gallic enthusiasm and care which are our admiration on this side of the Channel.

Smolensk. By Baron de Baye. (Paris, Perrin & Cie.)—Any fresh light on the drama of 100 years ago which was enacted in and around the ancient city of Smolensk is as welcome to students of European history as it must be of supreme interest to the grandchildren of those who took part in it. The author's concern has been to describe the history of the town from the ninth century onwards, the battle fought there before Napoleon could march on to Moscow, and the pillage which took place during the terrible flight. He sketches the events as they succeed one another in the terse, plain manner of the military dispatch, but the vivid contemporary letters which follow—many of them hitherto unpublished—throw a blaze of light on the pitiless scenes of August and November, 1812, and give a graphic recital of suffering and mismanagement.

La Chanson populaire de l'Île de Corse. By Austin de Croze. (Paris, Champion.)—Happy are those nations which preserve their folk songs, and all praise to those who rescue them from the oblivion in which a materialistic age buries its past. The very existence of Corsican folk-lore has been questioned, but to doubts of this kind this little volume is a substantial and unanswerable challenge. It represents, we believe, the first attempt to collect the numerous "voceri" and "vendetta" of Corsican tradition—the former, poignant in expression of a grief that knows no resignation, and the latter, with its fierce chants of revenge, primitive and tragical in character.

Many Corsican popular romances offer striking comparisons with the folk-songs of Northern Europe, and there is a startlingly close analogy between our fifteenth-century air 'The Babes in the Wood' and the song of the bandit Nicolai. The book is well written, and is a timely production, for Corsican nationality is becoming rapidly merged in that of France. The collection is made the more useful by an exhaustive bibliography.

Rome au Temps de Jules II. et de Léon X. Par Emanuel Rodocanachi. (Paris, Hachette.)—To E. Rodocanachi's activity in the field of Roman life and manners in the Middle Ages, as well as at the time of the first and second Renaissance, we are indebted for this new volume, a masterpiece of French editing. Coming after 'Les corporations ouvrières à Rome depuis la chute de l'Empire' (1894), 'La Femme italienne à l'époque de la Renaissance' (1907), and 'Le château St. Ange' (1909), not to mention minor works on Cola di Rienzo, Renée of Ferrara, Vittoria Colonna, the Jewish colony of Rome, the Courtesans and Buffoons, &c., this last volume makes the author's illustration of Roman life and civilization complete.

In his work he has had to contend with two difficulties. The first concerns the number and value of existing publications on the same subject, which seem to have left nothing unsaid on the state of the city under the rule of Pope della Rovere and Pope de' Medici. Domenico Grolì, for instance, whose delightful contributions to the *Nuova Antologia* include discussions of the Origins of Pasquino, Raphael's House, the Trial of Christopher Longueil, the Hunts of Leo X., and the Census of Clement VII., is but one of Rodocanachi's innumerable predecessors in this special line. I have myself described the "transformation" of Rome at the beginning of the sixteenth century in chaps. i. and ii. of the 'Golden Days of the Renaissance' (1906). I do not think I am wide of the mark if I reckon the names of previous writers quoted by the author in the foot-notes as about a thousand.

The second difficulty is the comprehensiveness of the subject. The "spirit of the age" under Julius II. and Leo X. exploded, as it were, in so many directions, and led to such amazing results in public and private life, art and literature, religion and politics, morals and finance, that even the 460 pages of the text and the 72 full-page illustrations would seem inadequate to exhaust the subject.

The author deserves credit for the way in which he has overcome both difficulties. In the first place, he has drawn a considerable percentage of his information from unpublished documents in the State and Vatican archives, the correspondence of diplomatic agents at the Court of Julius II. and Leo X., or rare contemporary pamphlets. Secondly, while limiting the text to an exposition of the main facts, and so making it intelligible and acceptable to all classes of readers, he adds in the foot-notes as complete a set of references as any student of the Roman Renaissance could desire.

There are five chapters, and an appendix, the former concerning The Pope's Court, Artists and Literary Men, The City and the People, The Civic Administration, and Feasts and Amusements. The Appendix refers to the Pillage of Rome in 1527 by the Connétable de Bourbon, in consequence of which the Renaissance described in the five chapters ended as suddenly as it had blossomed. Those few days of destruction and massacre annihilated the civilizing work of a quarter of a century, and plunged the city again into a semi-barbaric state.

The seventy-two full-page illustrations include portraits, views, and panoramas of the city, tombs, architectural details, medals, furniture, jewels, bronzes, church vessels, &c., all carefully chosen from public and private collections, or original sketches by Dutch and Italian artists. The titles of these illustrations, however, are rather inaccurate, and certain names are misspelt; for instance, *Piazza Giudea* (Giudea), the *Palazzo Massino*

(Massimo), and the monastery of *Santo Scolastico* (Santa Scolastica). Illustration xxiii² is said to represent the Garden of Cardinal Cesi in the said Piazza Giudea, whereas its interesting remains are still to be seen near the Porta Cavalleggeri, at the foot of the Monte di Santo Spirito. Lafreri's representation of Pasquino, published in 1550 (p. xxxv), is attributed to the seventeenth century. Dosio's view of the Arco di Portogallo, engraved about 1569 (pl. xxxvii²), is attributed to Cavalieri and the period 1550-90. The rare and fine plate of the Benediction given by Pius IV. from the Loggia of St. Peter's, published by Lafreri, when Michelangelo's drum of the cupola (conspicuous in the engraving) had already reached its full height, is attributed to 1540, the sixth year before the death of Giuliano da Sangallo, and the seventh before Michelangelo's appointment as his successor in the directorship of the works.

The text, on the other hand, is remarkably free even from slips of the pen. Such we may consider, however, the name of "Ferdinand the Fifth" given to the King of Naples, Ferrante the First, who visited Rome in the jubilee year of 1475; and the statement that the present "Via Alessandrina," which joins Trajan's Forum with those of Augustus and Nerva, derives its name from Pope Alexander VI. (1492-1503), since it was laid out only in 1567-70, in consequence of the drainage and sanitation of the Pantano, undertaken by Pius V. and his nephew Cardinal Bonelli.

Apart from these trifling imperfections, the detection of which needs a microscopic eye, Rodocanachi's book will be welcomed by all students of the "Golden Days of the Renaissance"—and their number is legion—because, with the help of its amazing bibliography concerning known and unknown sources of information, it will give them a chance of learning a great deal more than the book itself can tell.

R. LANCIANI.

THIS WEEK'S BOOKS.

An English-Greek Lexicon, by G. M. Edwards (Cambridge University Press), is the work of a sound scholar, and, as its 320 pages supply a good grounding in vocabulary, separating verse and prose, it is likely to be adopted for the use of young students. Mr. Edwards does "not advocate the constant use of the 'English-Greek' in composition at school or at the University," and in this view he will have the support of the majority of teachers. But some help is needed, and a trustworthy selection of words with occasional references to the authors who use them, and some of the paraphrase of the *Gradus*, should be appreciated. Additions and corrections will be welcomed, and could be easily supplied. Our own experience tends to the belief that the language of Euripides, simpler than that of his great rival of tragedy, is unduly ignored. Thus οὐδὲν ἄνους is a convenient and idiomatic equivalent for "unsound" which is mentioned in the Introduction.

This feature of the book is more fitted for advanced Grecians than for beginners. It is, in fact, a sketch of great interest, depending on fine scholarship, and affording an admirable insight into the wonderful grace and variety of Greek, while it provides some of the details which will enable the examinee to solve his difficulties. The style of tragedy and Thucydides, of Xenophon, "a bad authority for Attic," and the new 'Hellenica' ascribed to Theopompus is briefly sketched. It would have been well, we think, to emphasize the crabbedness

of Thucydides, who is hardly a model for Greek prose, though a storehouse of usages which attract the scholastic expert. Mr. Edwards quotes good authorities for his verdicts, but has surely had enough experience as a reader and teacher to speak for himself.

THE title of Mr. Percy Fitzgerald's book, *Boswell's Autobiography* (Chatto & Windus), prepares us for his view that Boswell's chief aim in his 'Life' of Johnson was to make a sort of apology for his own life and actions. His purpose was, we are told, at all hazards to claim the first place in that chronicle. This ingenious paradox the author recently maintained in *The Quarterly Review*, and now enlarges it in a loosely written book, full of repetitions, devoting eight chapters to "motor forces" which impelled Boswell to advertise himself and his claims to notice. The book will interest and entertain those—and they are probably many—who know little of Boswell's extraordinary life, and have not noted, or detected by means of other contemporary evidence, the traces of his spite and prejudice. But much that the author says has been long known to experts, and his special pleading—we cannot call it anything else—frequently fails to convince us. Boswell was not a gentleman in his behaviour, but he was a great artist, with the artist's talent alike for veracious reconstruction and positive embroidery. Above all, he was, we take it, a hero-worshipper with that intense gusto in life which distinguished Samuel Pepys, and we do not believe for a moment that he intended to make Johnson play second fiddle. He was full of himself, like other vivid persons who have a special sense of their own significance, and he had many scores to pay off, as is pointed out.

But the meaning of his phrases seems sometimes overdone here, and in the attribution of motives, always a dubious business, this chronicle does not satisfy us. Boswell's case is not so strange as it is made out. Many people find an annoying amount of Forster in the 'Life of Dickens,' and De Quincey has left us in his views of his associations with the "Lakers" a masterpiece of apparently friendly innuendo.

Mr. Fitzgerald needs to go deeper than he does if he means to convince. Take the case of 'Dr. Watson's Chemical Essays' (pp. 126-7). He does not mention that they were introduced by Boswell because Johnson was reading them, nor would one gather from his subsequent comments that these very 'Essays' received a high eulogium from Sir Humphry Davy, that Watson "threw his science aside for ever" when he was made Professor of Divinity, that he wrote "very forcibly" on equalizing the revenues of bishoprics without giving his own case as an example, and that he was, in fact, a prominent figure in eighteenth-century thought. Our quotations are from Leslie Stephen, who was certainly not prejudiced in the Bishop's favour.

Writing concerning the Shakespeare Jubilee at Stratford of 1769, Mr. Fitzgerald says that Boswell's lament concerning Johnson's absence "had no foundation." He wholly omits the fact, stated by Boswell, that "Johnson's connection both with Shakespeare and Garrick founded a double claim to his presence." He does not tell the reader, indeed, that the whole affair was Garrick's special show.

As usual, we find our author deprecating the methods of Birkbeck Hill, and his "superfotation" of parallel passages. For our own part, we cherish the illusion that a book requires an index. As Mr. Fitzgerald provides nothing of the kind himself, it

is odd that he should object to Boswell's placing an index at the beginning instead of the end. It seems odd, too, that so careless a writer should take it upon him to abuse other people as unscientific. Finally, we note that Mr. Fitzgerald indulges in the parallels which he scorns in others. In 'Pickwick' and 'Boswell' he detects curious similarities, and "most curious" is the fact that Johnson and Mr. Pickwick were both kissed by young ladies. It is, indeed, prodigious.

An Introduction to the Study of Prices. By Walter T. Layton. (Macmillan & Co.)—It is rarely that a book which is badly wanted is as good as Mr. Layton's. His competence is in no need of testimony, and marks of care and thought abound throughout, e.g., in the valuable note on p. 54 dealing with wheat prices from 1820 to 1875.

The plan adopted is excellent. The text lays down plain broad tracks of thought along which even the beginner in economics can travel easily and profitably. These are followed by neat and copious appendixes containing the statistical material on which the judgments are based. An excellent chart of average wholesale prices and the world's gold production follows.

The book is an exposition of the theory of prices, checked and supplemented by careful inquiries into the way in which they have varied since 1820. How such changes affect different classes of the community is carefully considered. Similar care is devoted to the question whether periods of rising prices are best for trade, whereon the conclusion is that

"nineteenth-century history shows that national productivity depends much more upon the advance of science and discovery, and on the training, education, and organization of labour, than on the rise or fall of prices."

The relation in time between changes in the supply of gold and in the level of prices is considered, and the connexion between them cautiously, but soundly demonstrated. The book should be read by all who are interested in one of the burning questions of the day.

PROF. HOPE W. HOGG.

THE death of Prof. Hope W. Hogg, to which reference was made in the last issue of *The Athenæum*, removes one of the best-known Orientalists in this country. Prof. Hogg held the Chair of Semitic Languages and Literatures in the University of Manchester, and, in addition to his tutorial duties, found time to undertake much valuable work for the furtherance of Oriental studies.

Born in Egypt in 1863, he acquired a sound knowledge of classical and modern Arabic, and with the help of his wife prepared in 1896 a translation of the Arabic version of Tatian's 'Diatessaron,' with introduction and notes. He also undertook the cataloguing of the Arabic MSS. in the Rylands Library; and his wide acquaintance with the literature shows itself in an admirable series of articles on 'Mesopotamia,' &c., in the eleventh edition of 'The Encyclopedia Britannica.'

As an Assyriologist, too, Prof. Hogg did much useful work, especially in contributing valuable summaries of Assyriological and other Oriental publications to *The Interpreter*, and elsewhere. From 1895 to 1903 he was a member of the editorial staff of the 'Encyclopædia Biblica,' into the preparation of which he threw himself with his usual enthusiasm. Of his labours the editors say in the Preface: "To his zeal

energy, and scholarship the work has been greatly indebted in every direction." Among the numerous articles which he contributed, special mention may be made of those on the several Israelite tribes, and an extremely interesting one on 'Agriculture.'

He devoted much time and trouble, also, to the superintending of the maps which form a special feature of this 'Encyclopædia,' and have gained the admiration of all who have used and tested them.

Not to mention other work by the late Prof. Hogg, it may suffice to say that he was a scholar of wide and accurate knowledge, enthusiastic and minute in attention to detail, sober in judgment, and always ready to assist in promoting the subjects to which he gave an all-too short life. It may be added that he originated and was the first president of an Oriental Society in Manchester, and had already completed the preparation and supervision of the first number of its *Journal*. S. A. C.

'GRAHAME OF CLAVERHOUSE.'

5, John Street, Adelphi, W.C., Feb. 24, 1912.

In *The Athenæum* of to-day's date your reviewer—when criticizing my biography of Claverhouse—points out that the battle of Tippermuir was not won by "300 Highlanders." This misprint of the numbers at Tippermuir was discovered before publication, and corrected by an *erratum* slip inserted at p. 256, where the misprint occurs. I can only conclude that *The Athenæum* must have received an advance copy from which the *erratum* was missing.

I take it that the reviewer is thinking of Lord George Murray when he alludes to "Lord George Gordon shortly before Culoden."

MICHAEL BARRINGTON.

THE MAN IN THE IRON MASK.

Llandoff House, Cambridge, Feb. 20, 1912.

MR. ANDREW LANG, in his letter to you last week on this subject, objects to my identification of the famous prisoner in the new edition of my book 'The Man of the Mask.' My candidate is, as he truly says, an ecclesiastic, and probably a Jesuit. How then, Mr. Lang asks, does he come to be described as "a valet" by the French Government? He then proceeds to bring forward once more the claims of his own candidate in 'The Valet's Tragedy'—who no doubt was a valet, and so far answers to the description.

I should reply that from a hundred other instances of French political prisoners of the period we know that they were never called by their right names, or given their right description in official letters; and that this was a matter of settled and invariable policy. Mr. Lang's objection is therefore no real objection at all, and recoils, so far as there is any force in it, against his own candidate.

When we have said that the candidate was a valet, we have, in fact, said all that there is to be said for Mr. Lang's theory. In nothing else does his candidate meet the requirements of the case. The real prisoner was apparently a gentleman, a man of culture, a fervent Roman Catholic, and a man of political experience, who was possessed of some secret of vital importance. Mr. Lang's valet in no way answers the description.

If there is no stronger objection to be brought against my candidate than this one of Mr. Lang's, I shall begin to be hopeful that I may have made a contribution of real value towards the solution of the mystery.

ARTHUR S. BARNES.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

[Notice in these columns does not preclude longer review.]

ENGLISH.

Theology.

Burn (Rev. A. E.), *The Athanasian Creed*, 1/ net. Rivingtons

A short survey of the Quicumque, its history, authorship, and doctrines, with a brief commentary. Dr. Burn rejects Dom Morin's recent theories, and adheres to Waterland's view of an early fifth-century authorship. There is a textual appendix. One of the Oxford Church Text-Books.

Carlyle (A. J.), *The Influence of Christianity upon Social and Political Ideas*, 1/6 net.

We are disappointed with this book. Not that it is bad, but if Mr. Carlyle had taken more pains with those parts of the subject which are not covered by his 'History of Political Theory in the Middle Ages,' it might have been infinitely better. His treatment is clear and simple—too simple, perhaps—for it suggests a single stream of Christian thought in relation to political ideas, instead of a separate system for nearly every one of the myriad forms of religion with little in common but the name of Christianity. Nor does he seem to us to give sufficient prominence to the distinction between clerk and layman, or the doctrine of the State as a *pis-aller*, if a *pis-aller* of divine institution, which runs through a good deal of Christian thought even in our own day. His work is one of the Christian Social Union Handbooks.

Dallinger (W. H.), *The Creator, and What We May Know of the Method of Creation*, 6d. net.

A cheap edition of a lecture by a Wesleyan scholar, who based his religious teaching on a refutation of materialism supported by his well-known researches on micro-organisms. No. 17 of the Fernley Lectures.

Harrison (Jane Ellen), *Themis: a Study of the Social Origins of Greek Religion*, 15/ net.

A revision of the views expressed in the author's 'Prolegomena to the Study of Greek Religion.' She has been led by the philosophy of Prof. Bergson and the social psychology of Prof. Emile Durkheim to re-examine her material in the light of two ideas: (1) That the mystery-god and the Olympian express respectively, the one *durée*, life, and the other the action of conscious intelligence which reflects on and analyzes life; and (2) that, among primitive peoples, religion reflects collective feeling and collective thinking. This "group-thinking" or "group-emotion towards life," the author analyzes in the 'Hymn of the Kouretes,' recently discovered at Palaikastro. Other themes, such as magic, *mana*, initiation ceremonies, carnivals, and Olympic games, cluster round the Hymn. On the games Mr. F. M. Cornford contributes a chapter, while Prof. Murray adds an excursus on the ritual forms preserved in Greek tragedy. The book is well documented and illustrated, and should prove of great interest to scholars.

Johnson (Rev. Theodore), *The Visitation of the Sick: some Practical Reflections for the Use of the Clergy and Others engaged in Parochial Visitation*, 1/6 net.

A manual intended mainly for the instruction of the younger clergy, embodying the normal clerical recommendations and regulations. It is more of a guide to religious exhortation than a practical medical directory.

Law.

Every Man's Own Lawyer, by a Barrister, 1912, 6/8 net. Crosby Lockwood

In the 1912 revised edition there have been few additional incorporations, except concerning the National Insurance and Copyright Laws. Among other Acts of importance are the Protection of Animals Act and the Perjury and Swearing Act, both being codified. Other minor Acts are duly noted.

Ilbert (Sir Courtenay), *Methods of Legislation: a Lecture delivered before the University of London on October 25th, 1911*, 2/6 net.

The author is concerned not with the interpretation of enacted laws, but with the different methods of making them in civilized countries, and the advantages and defects that may be claimed for these methods. Though necessarily sketchy, the survey is of considerable interest. At the end a list is added of

some books on the legislative methods of foreign countries, but the author expresses a doubt whether we can derive many useful hints from such sources.

Morris (Robert C.), *International Arbitration and Procedure*, 6/ net.

New Haven, Yale University Press

We commend to all students of politics this modest and unpretentious book by the counsel for the U.S.A. in the Venezuelan Arbitration. Mr. Morris sketches the history of arbitration, which is as old as war itself, and the conditions of its application, showing that, while almost anything may become a "vital issue" upon which no peaceful award is possible, the use of international agreement is yet extending beyond disputes which arise out of previous treaties or the friction of national debt-collecting. Not the least valuable part of this volume is the chapter on the Hague Conference. President Taft contributes a "Foreword."

Robertson (George Stuart), *The Law of Copyright*. Oxford, Clarendon Press

In this book the text of the Conventions and Statutes is relegated to an appendix. The body of the work consists of a treatise on copyright law as modified by the Act of 1911, the whole subject being reviewed in a series of well-arranged chapters. The effect of the statute law is stated in clear language, and is discussed, criticized, and interpreted, as far as possible, by earlier legal decisions. The book has the great merit of dealing with a dry and complicated theme in a very readable way, and will prove useful to lawyer and layman alike.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

Cust (Robert H. Hobart), *Benvenuto Cellini*, 2/6 net. Methuen

Mr. Cust's handbook shows sound judgment, is clear in style, and fortified by excellent illustrations. One of the Little Books on Art.

Embalmed Head (The) of Oliver Cromwell in the Possession of the Rev. H. R. Wilkinson, exhibited before the Royal Archaeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland on 5th April, 1911, with some Notes thereon, 2/6

The Institute A reprint of the *Proceedings* of the Royal Archaeological Institute last April, when the embalmed skull in question was anatomically examined by experts. All the circumstances that could be discovered concerning the survival of the relic are related, and there are illustrations of the head, which is now partly decayed.

Lee (Vernon) and Anstruther-Thomson (C.), *Beauty and Ugliness, and Other Studies in Psychological Aesthetics*, 12/6 net. John Lane

There appeared in *The Contemporary Review* some years ago the essay around which this book has grown. Of its conclusions, some have been sustained, and others largely modified by the latest psychology and philosophy. Though Vernon Lee declares that her aesthetics are "always those of the laboratory," they are none the less, but perhaps rather the more, suggestive on that account.

Simla: The Conference of Orientalists, including Museums and Archaeology, held in July, 1911. Simla, Govt. Central Branch Press

The Conference, which was attended by many distinguished scholars, discussed Oriental studies, museums, and archaeology, their recommendations being incorporated in this volume. The foundation was proposed of a Central Research Institute, which would offer facilities for acquiring advanced knowledge both to Indians and Europeans. A scheme of administration and regulation was drafted, and the innovation promises well.

Poetry and Drama.

Cook (Augustus H.), *Psyche, and Other Poems*, 3/6 net. Bell

There is a dainty and fanciful exclusiveness about Mr. Cook's poems. He scorns contact with the rough world, and tunes his lyre in Italian bowers for his own satisfaction. There are, however, so many of these travellers in the shadow-world of elegant numbers that we would fain light upon more uncouth stalwarts who do not shrink from actuality.

Drew (Bernard), *Helen, and Other Poems*, 2/6 net. A. C. Fifield

Mr. Drew's verse gains in strength and self-confidence. He used to be an apt phraser and a skilful colourist, but he has now developed resonance and dignity. His command over imagery, always noticeable, has become broader, and at the same time more facile. While retaining his preference for classical

subjects, he is more original and far more capable of welding difficult thought into rhythmical form than in 'Cassandra' and 'Prometheus Delivered.' Hands across the Equator.

New York, the Author informs us that his verse was written "in hours of leisure after days of severe mental toil." The residuum of mental energy available for verse has produced exiguous results. People who toss off a few lines when they can snatch a moment's respite from more serious things can hardly expect to produce good work.

Hebblethwaite (James), *Meadow and Bush: a Book of Verses*. Sydney, *The Bookfellow*.

The author's attenuated spirituality becomes tiresome when prolonged through so many pages. He is free from marked lapses in taste and diction, but his inspiration is not sufficient. His muse is a pastoral idler and "touches tender stops"—now with sentimental effusion, now with plaintive wistfulness. Occasionally he strays into the idyllic Elizabethan modes of feeling with success.

Heine and Goethe (Translations from), by Philip G. L. Webb, 2/6 net. A. C. Fifield.

It seems impossible for English translators of Heine to avoid the pitfalls of bathos and *simplesse*. They can transmit his words, but never his witchery of spirit. Mr. Webb is *gauche* and limp, but conscientious and free from any trace of insipidity or attitudinizing. The Goethe translations—selections from 'Faust' and 'Iphigenia in Tauris'—are less cramped and bolder in rendering.

Middleton (George), *Embers, and Other One-Act Plays of Contemporary Life*, \$1.35.

New York, Holt; London, Bell & Sons. These plays lack grip, reality, and distinction, and their wording does not ring true to an English reader. Certain locutions that are odd in English, but became familiar in translations from Ibsen—"even that," "also" in unusual places, &c.—betray the source of the author's inspiration; but the disciple has produced only a superficial copy of the master.

O'Riordan (Conal), (Norreys Connell), *Shakespeare's End, and Other Irish Plays*, 3/6 net. Swift.

Cherishing an inveterate prejudice in favour of the Irish drama, we yet do not like these plays. We find 'Shakespeare's End' forced and ineffective, in spite of some well-turned verse; and the fine theme of 'The Piper' is poorly executed. 'An Imaginary Conversation' is certainly the best of the three, as it is the least ambitious, and on the stage it is pleasant enough. Sincere and honest work cannot make up for the lack of dramatic power, and we miss the peculiar flavour so keenly that it is an effort to remember that the plays are written by an Irishman about Ireland, and that at least two of them have been acted at the Abbey Theatre. The most interesting part of the book is the prefatory letter to Joseph Conrad.

Percy (Eliza Duncan), *Poems of Faith and Hope*, 1/ net. C. H. Kelly.

Rhymed versions of various Anglican doctrines and incidents, delivered with pious and altruistic fervour. They have no poetical merit, nor are some pastoral lyrics in any way notable.

Watson (Edith E.), *Songs and Sonnets, and a Little Play*, 1/ Christian Commonwealth Co.

The author is an elocutionist of promise; but, when she turns from interpretation to creation, she shows none. Her nebulous reveries and "strange, sweet spells" are waifs and strays of verse without the semblance of inspiration. The "little play" is diminutive and amateurish.

Woodward (Rev. Geo. Ratcliffe), *Cupid and Psyche from the Latin of Apuleius, done into English Verse in Nine Cantos*, 3/6 net.

Herbert & Daniel. A conscientious, if somewhat jejune rendering of the mellifluous cadences of Apuleius. The author has evidently made a careful study of Middle English metre, rhythm, phraseology, and composition of sentences, but the directness, *naïveté*, and spontaneity of such poems as 'The Pearl' and the story of Blancheclair are beyond his horizon. He tells the story with some aptitude, but his muse is too pedestrian for the ethereal charm of Cupid and Psyche.

Music.

Gosling (Henry F.), *Music and its Aspects: a First Series of Essays on Music and its Relations to Nature, Humanity, Science, and History, &c.*, 6/ H. J. Drane. For notice see p. 263.

Rimington (A. Wallace), *Colour-Music, the Art of Mobile Colour*, 6/ Hutchinson. For notice see p. 263.

Bibliography.

Book-Auction Records, Vol. IX, Part I, 5/3 net. Karslake.

Philosophy.

Balsillie (David), *An Examination of Professor Bergson's Philosophy*, 5/ net. Williams & Norgate.

For notice see p. 249. Schiller (F. C. S.), *Formal Logic: a Scientific and Social Problem*, 10/ net. Macmillan. A criticism of formal logic from the formal point of view. Destructive in its purpose, the book is meant to prepare the way for "the true logic of real reasoning, which starts from the act of thought, and so does not lose touch with Science and practical life." In fact, it forms Prolegomena to any future logic. A fuller notice will appear in a later issue.

Seth (James), *English Philosophers*, 5/ net. Dent. Prof. Seth, in this concise history of English (including Scotch) philosophy, has, in spite of his professed purpose of confining attention chiefly to "the epoch-making philosophers," happily done justice to the host of lesser names which the student is usually content to ignore, at the cost of making the course of thought arbitrary and discontinuous. The volume forms part of the Channels of English Literature.

History and Biography.

Besant (Sir Walter), *London South of the Thames*, 30/ net. A. & C. Black.

This book completes Besant's Survey of London, and forms the tenth volume of the whole work. It contains topographical descriptions of Southwark and the suburbs "over the water" as far as Eltham, Lee, and Shooter's Hill. The illustrations consist of reproductions of old drawings and prints of places now passed away, as well as representations of what still exists.

Cooper (Frederic Taber), *Some American Story-Tellers*, 5/ net. Grant Richards.

Most of these essays originally appeared in *The Bookman*, and it seems to us doubtful whether they were worth collecting in book-form. However, Mr. Cooper discusses the qualities and defects of his authors with clearness, and photographs of the chosen add interest to the book.

Fea (Allan), *The Real Capt. Cleveland*, 8/6 net. Martin Secker.

We fail to see either the necessity or usefulness of a biography of the buccaneer who figured in Scott's novel 'The Pirate'; if any interest is attached to him, it is purely local. The author has made up for his lack of material by including a mass of trivial details remotely connected with his subject. The numerous illustrations are uninteresting.

Fitzgerald (Percy), *Boswell's Autobiography*, 12/6 net. Chatto & Windus.

For notice see p. 248. Innes (Arthur D.), *England's Industrial Development: a Historical Survey of Commerce and Industry*, 5/ net. Rivingtons.

This is not a complete or comprehensive picture of the development of industrialism in England. It only collects various data, and marshals facts in a skeleton form. Nevertheless, its presentation, which is unbiased and orderly, merits the attention of earnest people uninitiated into the intricacies of the labour problem, and desirous of grasping in rough outline the events, ideas, and tendencies underlying English industrial history.

Johnson (Dr.) and Fanny Burney: being the Johnsonian Passages from the Works of Mme. D'Arbly, with Introduction and Notes by Chauncey Brewster Tinker, 7/6 net.

Andrew Melrose. The principal portion of this book is a reproduction from Fanny Burney's 'Diary and Letters' of the passages relating to Dr. Johnson. These are largely trivial and uninteresting, but the compilation may be of use to the increasing host of Johnsonians.

Learned (Henry Barrett), *The President's Cabinet: Studies in the Origin, Formation, and Structure of an American Institution*, 10/6 net. New Haven, Yale University Press.

London, Frowde. The American Cabinet is none the less important because a council of civil servants works in greater obscurity than a convention of parliamentary leaders, and Mr. Learned has chosen a fitting subject for his elaborate research. The sound judgment and clear style in which the origin and growth of the Cabinet and of the nine Secretaryships are traced give the book an importance of its own.

Lovett (the late Richard), *James Chalmers: his Autobiography and Letters*, 1/ net.

Religious Tract Society. The eighth edition of the life-story of the admirable missionary who worked among the inhabitants of New Guinea, notice of which appeared in *The Athenæum*, July 5, 1902, p. 28. Nevill (Capt. H. L.), *Campaigns on the North-West Frontier*, 15/ net. John Murray.

Concerned with the troublesome forays of the natives of the North-West Frontier, the repelling of attacks, reprisals, further inroads, and so on. Such a history is unlikely to appeal to others than those interested or engaged in guerilla warfare. For soldiers who may be stationed in that district of India it should be invaluable, as it comprises the histories of all the expeditions, and offers a suggestive study of the evolution of arms and strategy. There are maps and appendixes. We should have liked to hear something of native customs and social life.

Russell (George W. E.), *Edward King, Sixtieth Bishop of Lincoln: a Memoir*, 7/6 net.

Smith & Elder. A biography well worth writing. The author has made excellent use of correspondence to reveal the generosity, kindness, and simplicity of the bishop. The letters, however, of congratulation after the well-known trial might have been reduced. With four appendixes and a frontispiece.

Southey's Letters, a Selection, edited, with Introduction and Notes, by Maurice H. Fitzgerald, 1/ net. Frowde.

A neat little book on thin paper. "Southey's private letters are worth piles of epics," was Thackeray's dictum half a century ago. Its truth is beyond dispute. His correspondence has singular spontaneity and charm, and vivifies his connexion with such men as Coleridge, Lamb, Landor, Scott, and Shelley. The selection is excellent. In the World's Classics, Pocket Edition.

Thornton (John), *The Story of India*, 6/ H. J. Drane.

The book shows a tendency to obscure general conceptions with a mass of detail. In other respects we like it well enough. Without being in any way profound, it should serve to interest the general reader.

Warren (Charles), *A History of the American Bar*, 16/ net. Cambridge University Press.

A portion of this book is reissued with many additions. It has been compiled from innumerable and scattered sources, and is consequently an agglomeration of facts flung into book-form rather than a book. The first part is a résumé of the legal conditions and administration prevailing in the American colonies; the second traces the development of the American Bar from the inauguration of the United States Supreme Court to the opening of the Civil War. Both are overcrowded with non-essential detail.

Wesley (Rev. John), *The Journal of, enlarged from Original MSS., with Notes from Unpublished Diaries, Annotations, Maps, and Illustrations, edited by Nehemiah Curnock, Standard Edition, Vol. III.* C. H. Kelly.

The third volume of an admirable edition; its publication has been delayed by the wealth of annotation which accompanies it. This section covers the period from April 16th, 1742, to October 30th, 1751, and has several illustrations of interest.

Geography and Travel.

Cruickshank (J. W. and A. M.), *The Smaller Tuscan Towns*, 3/6 net. Grant Richards.

Another of the excellent guide-books compiled on the principle of Grant Allen's recommendations. Within its limits, it presents in compact and suggestive outline the features of the exquisite smaller Tuscan cities, their histories, topography, architecture, sculpture, and painting. For the traveller in the less-frequented parts of Tuscany this book will be indispensable, unless his previous knowledge is considerable. The offensive features of the normal guide-book are happily absent.

Young (Ernest), *Finland, the Land of a Thousand Lakes*, 7/6 net. Chapman & Hall.

For notice see p. 247.

Sports and Pastimes.

Green (Eric H.) and White (Eustace E.), *Hockey*, 2/ net. Eveleigh Nash.

A creditable and scientific exposition of the game, all its tactics and evolutions being carefully described. Natural aptitude and adaptability are worth a world of theory and book-making; but such books, especially when they are well done, are useful to lovers of the nicer points of the game. Part of the National Library of Sports and Pastimes.

Haultain (Arnold), *The Mystery of Golf*, Second Edition, Revised and Enlarged, 2/6 net. New York, Macmillan Co.

The book in some measure provides an insight into that mysterious attraction, incomprehensible perhaps to the uninitiated, which the "Royal and Ancient Game" exercises over its devotees. It is unusual in going into metaphysics and philosophy, and certain medical terms which are not generally understood.

Ryle (E. H.), *Athletics*, 2/ net. Eveleigh Nash
Consists of expert advice on such points as training, dietary, style, and judgment in running. It classifies the different forms of exercise included under the composite title of athletics, and offers a host of useful suggestions for efficiency in each. There are a number of good illustrations. Also in the National Library of Sports and Pastimes.

Education.

Classics and the Average Boy: a Question for the Nation, 6d. net. *The Times Office*

The controversy in *The Times* of January, which excited some interest in scholastic circles, is here reproduced in paper covers. The gage was flung down by "A Public Schoolmaster" in *The Times* Educational Supplement of January 2nd, and was immediately taken up by a host of educational authorities. Certainly "A Public Schoolmaster's" rational and incisive letter provoked an interesting discussion, though the majority of the combatants showed nervousness in going to the root of the problem.

MacVannel (John Angus), *Outline of a Course in the Philosophy of Education*, 4/ net. New York, Macmillan Co.

That education is a social science in which we can trace certain general principles, and that, like other sciences, it has philosophical presuppositions and relations, is more readily admitted than realized. But Dr. MacVannel grapples boldly with this aspect of the subject. We like his suggestive treatment, and, if we disagree with many of his conclusions, we welcome his reminder that education is more than a mechanical art based on empirical foundations.

Sociology.

Gonner (E. C. K.), *Common Land and Inclosure*, 12/ net. Macmillan

An examination, by no means unfavourable, into the effects of enclosure on population and employment in the latter part of the eighteenth century, with a quantity of statistics. The author traces the development of individual occupation of the soil. The most interesting section of such a subject is that dealing with the influence of enclosure on the conditions of the working classes. The author is some distance from the conclusions of Mr. Hammond's book on the same subject, and is altogether more timid and circumspect.

Philology.

Edwards (G. M.), *An English-Greek Lexicon*, 7/6 net. Cambridge University Press

For notice see p. 251.

Owen (Dorothy L.), *Piers Plowman, a Comparison with some Earlier and Contemporary French Allegories*, 5/ net. Hodder & Stoughton

This is a thesis for the degree of Master of Arts in the University of London. The study acknowledges contributions bearing on the 'Piers Plowman' authorship controversy since it was written, but the author has apparently not brought her work up to date in the light of these investigations. The most useful side of the treatise is the insight it incidentally affords into the machinery of the French allegorical convention of the period. It discusses with wide knowledge and much documentary citation the setting, personification, treatment, and devices of the allegory, and analyzes its ingredients in a good appendix.

School-Books.

Chambers's Seasonal Nature Poems for Infant Classes, selected and edited by Margaret Riach, 6d. net. W. & R. Chambers

This is better than the majority of anthologies of the same sort, but is still hampered by the current conventionalities besetting this type of poem. We look in vain for a single selection from Stevenson's 'A Child's Garden of Verses' or Blake. Nor is Green's "Weep not, my wanton," a delightful and haunting song for children, included. The principle of this collection seems to be that to please the child-mind you must be puerile. The choice lacks care and discrimination.

Chambers's Supplementary Readers: Norse Fairy Tales; and Norse Wonder Stories, 6d. each. W. & R. Chambers

These stories are selected somewhat at random from the vast storehouse of tales which the Scandinavian genius has preserved, but they serve their purpose well enough. We are attracted by the fresh, open, and spontaneous way in which they are told. There is little or no conventional phrase-making or affectation. Some of the stock language of the fairy books is neatly turned.

Horsley (Reginald), *Victoria, the Good Queen*, 6d. W. & R. Chambers

The book before us is but another instance of the misleading effects of idealization. Queen Victoria has become a lay figure for panegyric. One of the series of Brief Biographies of the Good and Great.

Jones (Franklin T.) and Tatnall (Robert R.), *Laboratory Problems in Physics, to accompany Crew and Jones's 'Elements of Physics'*, 2/6. New York, Macmillan Co.

These exercises are well selected and arranged to serve as a first course in practical work on physics, as the apparatus needed is of the simplest description, and all necessary instructions are given in detail. The accompanying questions will force the pupil to inquire into the reason for each experiment and the deductions therefrom.

Lamb, *The Adventures of Ulysses*, edited by A. C. Dunstan, with Introduction, Notes, Index, and a Map, 8d. Bell

Lamb's prose version was written in 1807, and was almost contemporaneous with the 'Tales from Shakespeare.' The text is that of the 1819 edition. The 'Adventures' are occasionally too archaic in language, but are full of rich beauties. There are notes, a map of Homer's world, and an index of proper names. We hope this book, which is one of Bell's English Texts for Secondary Schools, will be largely adopted.

Marlowe (Christopher), *The Tragical History of Dr. Faustus*, with Introduction and Notes by William Modlen. Macmillan

As the editor fitly judges, there is no need for an exhaustive apparatus criticus, with Dr. Ward's monumental 'Old English Drama' already given to the world. In an edition intended for young people who love literature for itself rather than for its historical or textual significance the barest explanatory notes only are required, and these are adequately supplied. The text is from the 1604 edition, with expurgations.

Newman (M. L.), *Easy Latin Plays*, 6d. Bell

Two simple plays, 'Mater Græchorum' and 'Gemini,' written "to serve as a reading-book for an Upper Third Form," which should be useful as an elementary introduction to the study of Latin. Vocabularies are appended, and quantities are marked.

O'Connor (Daniel), *The Story of Peter Pan, a Reading-Book for Use in Schools*, 9d. Bell

A reprint of Mr. O'Connor's version of Mr. Barrie's juvenile folk-lore, issued as a reading-book for elementary schools, with pictures and selections of music. It does not make half such an appeal as does the play; the pictorial elements seem more jejune, and the incidents have less vitality and charm. But the idea of using it for schools is excellent.

Scott (Sir Walter), *Stories from the Poems of: Marmion*, 4d. W. & R. Chambers

There is a strained romantic fervour about this interpretation that does not seem likely to imbue the minds of children with a desire for seeking the original. The vague heroics and pomposity of narrative are unsuitable for young people, and are likely to spoil their enjoyment of the story. The prose is very different from the sharp, incisive verse of Scott.

Vernet (Madame Valette), *Grammaire pratique pour le Français de France*, 10d. Bell

This grammar is less mechanical and more idiomatic than the average ones we are familiar with. It is arranged and compiled on the right principle—that is to say, that a grammar is the threshold of a language, and its only practical application is for preparation in speaking and writing.

Science.

Bedell (Frederick) and Pierce (Clarence A.), *Direct and Alternating Current Manual, with Directions for Testing, and a Discussion of the Theory of Electrical Apparatus*, Second Edition, Enlarged and Revised, 8/ net. Constable

This manual consists of a collection of instructions for conducting a series of tests

upon direct and alternating current apparatus. Attention is paid to the fundamental tenets that underlie the various experiments. Hence, throughout, theory and application are neatly combined. Its utility makes it well worth another edition.

Booth (Wm. H.), *Liquid Fuel and its Apparatus*, 8/6 net. Constable

Presents in a handy form the most important points of the author's larger work on the subject issued in 1902. Since that date his ideas have gained general acceptance, and liquid fuel is widely used instead of coal—e.g., in naval manœuvres. The book is mainly confined to the use of such fuel "in steam raising and in direct power production in the internal combustion engine." The examples of apparatus have been reduced in number, but brought up to date. Part I. is concerned with 'Theory and Principles,' Part II. with 'Practice,' and Part III. with 'Tables and Data.'

Brislee (F. J.), *An Introduction to the Study of Fuel: a Text-Book for those entering the Engineering, Chemical, and Technical Industries*, 8/6 net. Constable

The first volume of a series which aims at providing a link between elementary chemistry up to the matriculation standard and the larger text-books dealing with details of separate industries which are "beyond the intellectual and financial reach of those who enter industrial employment." The book before us is the outcome partly of teaching and partly of technical experience. Dr. Brislee's writing is occasionally clumsy, but it is clear and practical, and with its numerous illustrations his book should serve its purpose well. It appears in the *Outlines of Industrial Chemistry* Series.

Ceylon, *Administration Reports, 1910-11: Part IV. Education, Science, and Art: Marine Biology, Report of Mr. Joseph Pearson, Director of the Colombo Museum and Government Marine Biologist.*

Contains paragraphs on pearl banks, the Tamblegam Windowpane Oyster Fishery, freshwater fisheries, and on a biological survey of Trincomalee Harbour.

Jordan (Whitman H.), *Principles of Human Nutrition: a Study in Practical Dietetics*, 7/6 net. New York, Macmillan Co.

Not so much an original treatise as a popular exposition of the conclusions of science, and of their bearing on the ordinary life of man. The latter half of the book should be of considerable use to students of domestic economy.

Knipe (Henry R.), *Evolution in the Past*, 12/6 net. Herbert & Daniel

For notice see p. 259.

Lewis (Leonard P.), *Railway Signal Engineering (Mechanical)*, 8/ net. Constable

A compendious and well-equipped treatise dealing with one of the most important branches of engineering. It gives a concise and lucid exposition of the practices prevailing in mechanical railway signalling. There are numerous illustrations and diagrams. One of the Glasgow Text-Books.

Lydekker (R.), *The Ox and its Kindred*, 6/ Methuen

A popular and at the same time scientific account of the ox and its place in the animal kingdom. British cattle are, perhaps, treated at greater length than their importance warrants, but this does not limit the scope of the book unduly. There are numerous illustrations.

Nature Book: a Popular Description by Pen and Camera of the Delights and Beauties of the Open Air, Part I., 7d. net. Cassell

We welcome this new periodical, to be published in fortnightly parts for a year and a half. The first number is excellent, but there is much danger of falling away from a high standard of writing where there is excessive self-advertisement.

Nicholson (Edward), *Men and Measures: a History of Weights and Measures, Ancient and Modern*, 7/6 net. Smith & Elder

For notice see p. 259.

Perkin (W. H.) and Kipping (F. Stanley), *Organic Chemistry, Part I.*, 7/6 W. & R. Chambers

A revised and enlarged edition of an authoritative text-book. In view of the constantly shifting perspective of organic chemistry, readjustments have been necessary, and new subject-matter regarding the carbohydrates, the cycloparaffins, and the like—has been added. It is particularly useful as a guide to practical experiment.

Phin (John), *The Seven Follies of Science*, to which is added a Small Budget of Interesting Paradoxes, Illusions, Marvels, and Popular Fallacies: a Popular Account of the Most Scientific Impossibilities, and the Attempts which have been made to Solve Them, Enlarged Edition, 5/ net. Constable

Every right-minded person is attracted by the philosopher's stone, the elixir of life, and other like studies, out of which science has sprung. This book gives a simple and readable account of some of the more famous of these vulgar errors.

Ridgway (Robert), *The Birds of North and Middle America*, Part V.

A scientific and comprehensive account of the higher groups, genera, species, and sub-species of birds known to occur in North America, from the Arctic lands to the Isthmus of Panama, the West Indies, and other islands of the Caribbean Sea and the Galapagos Archipelago. Forms Bulletin 50 of the United States National Museum.

Salmon (George), *A Treatise on the Analytic Geometry of Three Dimensions*, Vol. I., revised by Reginald A. P. Rogers, Fifth Edition, 9/ Longmans

The new edition of this important work has been published by the direction of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin. A large number of articles have been introduced, the most important dealing with the expression of twisted cubics and quartics by rational or elliptic parameters; but the bulk of the additions to the text are of the nature of comment and illustration rather than of emendation. A few more figures might have been included with advantage.

Spolia Zeylanica, issued from the Colombo Museum, January, Re. 1.25.

Colombo, Ceylon, Cottle
All the specimens described in this work are preserved in the Indian Museum of Calcutta.
United States National Museum, Proceedings, Vol. XL.

The fortieth of a series of publications designed to place before the world the most recent discoveries of biology, anthropology, and geology, derived from the collections of the United States National Museum. As a catalogue of research and a compilation of material contained in the Museum, it is useful and handy.
Wilde (George), *Chaldean Astrology: How to Cast and Read the Horoscope and Calculate Star Courses*, Second Edition, 6/ net.

Werner Laurie
We hear a great deal in this manual of the laws of planetary influence, the casting of horoscopes, Malefics and Benefics, and astrological formulæ in general. The author comfortably acquits astrology of having been in any way associated with necromancy or the black arts, and proceeds to demonstrate the obscurantist superstitions of this form of imposture.

Fiction.

Baker (James), Mark Tiltotson. Chapman & Hall
A popular edition of this pleasant but diffuse novel.

Bennett (Arnold), *The Old Wives' Tale*, 6/ Hodder & Stoughton

A new edition of one of the very few modern novels which have survived their day, and seem likely to be permanently remembered in the future. Since it was published, the author has largely increased his reputation, but we doubt if he has done better than in this fine and solid piece of work. The book has a preface and a picture of the author.

Bowen (Marjorie), *The Quest of Glory*, 6/ Methuen

A vivid and powerful story of the time of Louis XV. The hero is a Sir Galahad, whose strenuous pursuit of lofty ideals amongst the base and meretricious personages in power gives the author good opportunities for striking situations and dramatic contrasts. The story of the beautiful and mysterious Carola is well told; the characters of the blasé monarch, his powerful minister, and Voltaire are skillfully drawn; and the gradual deepening of the tragedy towards the final scene is effective.

Brooke (Emma), *The House of Robershayes*, 6/ Heinemann

Miss Brooke belongs to the small band of writers who are never shallow and never slipshod. She thinks out her subject—generally rather some moral or mental crisis than any clash of events—and keeps resolutely to it. In her present book this characteristic merit becomes almost a defect, so much does the central interest, Robert Robershayes's change of heart, dominate all other matters. The very characters are individualized only to the degree

required by the story; neither the altruistic cousin nor the lady whom both men love is more than a profile.

Conyers (Dorothea), *The Arrival of Antony*, 6/ Hutchinson

It is, we think, chiefly the charm of Ireland and the Irish which accounts for the regret with which we lay down this book, though the situation created by the author is not without originality. There is a singularly unfortunate villain, whose appearance is usually the signal for some all too trivial catastrophe. In spite of the cloud which hangs over the hero, the happy ending will have been suggested to the hardened novel-reader from the first chapter.

Cullum (Ridgwell), *The Twins of Suffering Creek*, 6/ Chapman & Hall

A gold mine is the scene of this story, which is effectively and convincingly told. The twins' Sunday bath, an operation requiring the assistance of four miners, and the subsequent "Bible talk," form an amusing scene. Wild Bill is a wonderful hero, who achieves a mad drive to the neighbouring city to bank the gold; much happens on the way, and his success has many results.

Danby (Frank), *Joseph in Jeopardy*, 6/ Methuen

It is difficult to understand how any pleasure can be obtained from an analysis of the leech-like beings of both sexes who surround this Joseph. His physical attractions are emphasized *ad nauseam*, but he always tries to play the game. His character is a tribute to the cleverness of the author, for he belies the common impression that virtue must be dull.

Freestone (Saie), *The Repentance of Cyrus Keen*, 6/ Drane

The book is melodrama of a sort which seems to us to lack adequate justification.

Garvice (Charles), *Love in a Snare*, 6/ Hodder & Stoughton

This "present-day romance" flows easily along to the inevitable happy conclusion. The plot is to a certain extent ingenious, and the author's admirers will probably be well satisfied.

Gerard (Morice), *Crenland Castle*, 6/ Hodder & Stoughton

Here is plenty of sensation and romance, but we fear that much of it will leave the reader unconvinced. The story deals with the fortunes of a young Army officer who suddenly finds himself the inheritor of wealth and a title. There is also a stage villain of a conventional type, who retires into obscurity without accomplishing much harm.

Greenhoe (North), *Aunt Ursula's Bequest*, 1/ net. Murray & Eyenden

A capital short ghost-story explicable by the hypothesis that ghosts are entities possessed of a single fixed idea due to peculiar distress of mind at the time of death, and therefore usually associated with revenge or remorse.

Gretton (R. H.), *Almayne of Mainfort*, 6/ Grant Richards

For notice see p. 248.

Hocking (Joseph), *God and Mammon*, 3/6 Ward & Lock

The author relates the vicissitudes of a young Cornish lawyer who, full of youthful ambition and determination, and tired of the monotony of a country life, decides to seek fame and fortune in the great metropolis. The interesting story is somewhat marred by its lack of originality.

McAulay (Allan), *Beggars and Sorners*, 6/ John Lane

Readers whose tastes lie in the direction of historical fiction will find much of genuine interest in Mr. McAulay's work. The story describes the adventures of a young Scottish lady who, on a visit to Holland in the year 1760, finds herself unexpectedly involved in a Jacobite conspiracy. The author writes in a pleasing and facile manner, and would appear to have considerable knowledge of his subject, while his characters possess decided individuality. A general air of mystery and intrigue tends to keep one in a state of continuous expectancy, which is perhaps hardly justified by a somewhat weak climax. The dialogue, though spirited, is rather too suggestive of the twentieth century.

Metcalfe (Thomas), *The Prince*, with some Account of his Principality and Courtiers, 6/ Mills & Boon

This is apparently a first novel by a writer who has not yet mastered the rules of his craft, the most imperative of which is to be clear. Since the names of actual Brighton traders are boldly introduced, the scene of the tale is presumably within measurable distance of that town; but the odd dialect employed by some of the characters does not recall the Sussex speech.

North (Laurence), *The Golightlys, Father and Son*, 6/ Martin Secker

For notice see p. 248.

Norris (W. E.), *Paul's Paragon*, 6/ Constable

Concerns a young man who, after having been cared for by a distant relative, is faced with the existence of a disreputable father. The results as pictured by the author seem to us unconvincing and out of date. This last book from the well-known author is very disappointing.

O'Sullivan (Vincent), *A Good Girl*, 6/ Constable

This book's title is belied by its contents. We see very little of the "good girl," who is overshadowed by one of decidedly opposite tendencies. The Censor would probably have risen to the occasion had the author attempted to enter the dramatic field. We find the story unpleasant and lacking in interest.

Page (Gertrude), *The Rhodesian*, 6/ Hurst & Blackett

A mildly written novel which adds little to our knowledge of Rhodesia. The story is chiefly concerned with the love-affairs of four persons, and, as one of the characters succinctly puts it, "Which did he actually marry in the end, and what became of whom?"

Phillipotts (Eden), *The Forest on the Hill*, 6/ John Murray

For notice see p. 247.

Pratt (Ambrose), *A Daughter of the Bush*, 6/ Ward & Lock

The hero of this tale of the Australian bush tells his own love-story, and the many sensational incidents connected with it, in a colloquial and lively style.

Roberts (Morley), *The Man who Stroked Cats, and Other Stories*, 6/ Eveleigh Nash

The title story is one of five, which are all delightful. The author gives us a pathetic idyll in 'The Man who Stroked Cats'; a love 'Drama in Venice'; stories of two men who won a fair lady over the telephone, and of two men who lost a fair lady over the water; and the tale of a burglar whose charm was equalled only by his cleverness.

Scott, Anne of Geierstein, 2/ Frowde

The latest volume in the handy and well-printed Oxford edition of Scott. There are 24 illustrations and a brief glossary.

Sienkiewicz (Henryk), *Through the Desert*, 5/6 net. New York, Benziger Bros.

There are wild doings here. A small girl and a small but most precocious boy plough unscathed through a series of adventures from the first to the five hundred and fortieth and last page of the story. Personally, we dislike precocious boys who outwit Mahdis and put their elders and betters to shame, preserving all the while the true chivalrous spirit of proper little gentlemen.

Stephens (James), *The Charwoman's Daughter*, 3/6 net. Macmillan

Though it is not acknowledged in a preface or in the text, this novel has already appeared in a periodical. Mr. James Stephens's slender volume entitled 'Insurrections,' which was published a year or so ago, was one of the grimmest and most powerful productions in modern verse. The novel is in lighter vein, and its limpid spontaneity and sincerity are altogether refreshing.

Warden (Florence), *Mollie the Handful*, 6/ F. V. White

To the two gentlemen who were her guardians Mollie certainly proved herself a "handful"; throughout the book she keeps them thoroughly uncomfortable and alarmed, and the reader well amused. The tale is pleasantly told in the style familiar to the author's many admirers.

Warden (Gertrude), *The Path of Virtue*, 6/ F. V. White

This is what it purports to be, "a romance of the musical comedy stage," of a cheap and sensational order, though occasionally witty. The person who prevents the successful climax lives so long that we are not unprepared for the railway accident in the last chapter.

Wemyss (Mrs. George), *A Lost Interest*, 6/ Constable

The characters in this book, one and all, have the art of making light and witty conversation. They belong to the Smart Set, they view life with a well-bred cynicism, their manners are polished, and their remarks to the point (and occasionally somewhat beyond it). We are thoroughly amused, except when the author allows the "youthful innocence" of a precocious girl of fifteen to form a cloak for remarks which go beyond any ventured by the adults. That, we think, is neither a fair nor a pleasing feature of the book.

Wright (Oliver), *The Riverport Hail*, 2/ net.

Eveloigh Nash
A tale of mystery showing more than the average amount of skill, though the plot is not strikingly original. The interest centres around the disappearance of a will and the appearance of an unexpected heir.

General Literature.

Adam (Hargrave L.), *Woman and Crime*, 10/6 net.

Werner Laurie
As the author justly remarks: "It is not a pleasant thing to have to devote nearly an entire volume to denouncing in unmeasured terms—at times with unappeasable wrath—members of that sex which one has been reared to regard with the eye of compassion...." The book can hardly be regarded as a scientific inquiry into feminine criminology. The narrative has sensational features and some illustrations.

Graham (Harry), *The Perfect Gentleman, a Guide to Social Aspirants*, compiled from the Occasional Papers of Reginald Drake Biffin, 6/

Edward Arnold
A pleasing extravaganza, with plenty of laughable irony in it. Its purport is to satirize the excessive decorousness which is the bane of the modern *jeunesse dorée*, and it abounds in sly pleasantries at the expense of that wonderful animal. The style is one of grave, ceremonious mock-seriousness, and Mr. Graham enjoys himself with a zest which is infectious. This type of work is best as delicate rapier-play, but if the author occasionally takes to the broadsword, we must remember that rapiers are brittle, and that the book contains nearly 300 pages.

Graham (R. B. Cunningham), *Success, and Other Sketches*.

Duckworth
A reprint of a striking collection of sketches which we noticed favourably, and at length, on November 15th, 1902. In the Shilling Net Series.

Newspaper Press Directory, 1912, 2/

C. Mitchell & Co.
In this sixty-seventh issue due tribute is paid to Walter Wellsman, who was responsible for forty-seven issues of the Directory, and was looked upon as a walking encyclopedia on all matters relating to newspapers. Among original articles is one by Mr. W. T. Stead, 'Then and Now,' in which he compares the Press of the present day with what it was in 1846. In it he states "that the British Press floats on its advertising columns. As the advertiser keeps the concern going, he has only to withdraw his orders, and the newspaper collapses." Among recent innovations Mr. Stead mentions "the offer of *The Times* to insert advertisements for servants from its subscribers free of charge." The volume contains many portraits of merit.

People's Books (The): Henri Bergson, the Philosophy of Change, by H. Wildon Carr; Botany, the Modern Study of Plants, by M. C. Stopes; Dante, by A. G. Ferrers Howell; Heredity, by J. A. S. Watson; Mary, Queen of Scots, by Elizabeth O'Neill; Organic Chemistry, by Prof. J. E. Cohen; The Principles of Electricity, by Norman R. Campbell; Pure Gold, a Choice of Lyrics and Sonnets, by H. C. O'Neill; Roman Catholicism, by H. B. Coxon; The Science of the Stars, by E. W. Maunder; Shakespeare, by Prof. C. H. Herford; and Women's Suffrage, a Short History of a Great Movement, by M. G. Fawcett, 6d. net each.

T. C. & E. C. Jack
For notice see pp. 248 and 249.

Rees (Sir J. D.), *Current Political Problems, with Pros and Cons*, 5/ net.

Edward Arnold
We think the author might have dispensed with his afterword of "pros and cons," which represent the popular short cuts to thinking. Though he investigates the Persian question, he does not so much as mention the objections to the policy of absorption. In short, he has produced a handbook for the Conservative partisan to "get up" the normal controversial answers to the programme of his adversaries.

Royal Statistical Society, *Journal*, February, 2/6

The Society
Ruskin (John), *The Political Economy of Art; Unto this Last; Sesame and Lilies; The Crown of Wild Olive*, 3/6 net.

Macmillan
The two lectures dealing with 'The Political Economy of Art' first appeared in 1857, 'Unto this Last' in 1862, and 'Sesame and Lilies' in 1865. They are here reissued together, well printed and got up, with a bibliographical note. But 'Sesame and Lilies' has been issued so many times that we hardly see the need of another edition. The volume is one of the Library of English Classics.

Story (Alfred T.), *Vagrom Men*, 2/6 net.

Duckworth
The ten essays contained in this short volume have the advantage of spontaneity, and will, we think, appeal to most readers who care for literary grace and charm of style.

Strong (the late S. Arthur), *Critical Studies and Fragments, with a Memoir by Lord Balcarras*, 5/ net.

Duckworth
A number of these studies have appeared in *The Times*, *The Morning Post*, *The Academy*, *The Guardian*, *The Art Journal*, *The Athenæum*, &c., and it is convenient to have them collected and reissued in a single large volume. The contents cover a very wide field, including painting, fine art, history, literature, religion, philosophy, and archaeology; in fact, Strong did too much to do uniformly well. An adequate memoir, illustrations, appendices on Strong's purchases for the Chatsworth Library, his contributions to Orientalism, and subsidiary articles are added, with a copious index. The volume is part of the Crown Library.

Tous les Chefs-d'Œuvre de la Littérature Française: Paul Louis Courier, Pamphlets Politiques et Lettres d'Italie; and Alfred de Musset, Nouvelles, 1/ net each.

Dent
Two more additions to the attractive companion series to "Everyman." The choice of volumes is commendable.

Wilson (P. W.), *Welsh Disestablishment*, 1/ net.

Hodder & Stoughton
We find the preface by David Lloyd George, short as it is, more interesting than the book as a whole, which, while it marshals its facts clearly, and is logical, reasonable, and conciliatory in tone, is dull and too dependent on what other people say. There is a mass of statistical evidence and quotation from well-known authorities.

Pamphlets.

Abercrombie (Patrick), *Centripetality not Parliamentarian, or the Vizier New-Visaged: a Philosophical Enquiry into the Results likely to ensue from Certain Proposed Latter-day Female Incontinencies*, 4d.

Liverpool Booksellers' Co.
An extraordinary pamphlet advocating a system of eugenics for the preservation of female beauty. "Female Parliamentarianism" would be disastrous, says our author. It would "spoliage" Man, and we should ultimately be plunged into a "temporary Satyriasis," which sounds terrible.

Persian Crisis (The), 1912, 3d.

This pamphlet contains the chief addresses delivered at the public dinner in honour of Mr. Morgan Shuster at the Savoy Hotel on January 29th. Mr. Shuster's able and temperate indictment of Russian policy is its main feature, and the proposals of the Persia Committee to the Foreign Minister to secure the immunity of Persia from further molestation, the text of the Anglo-Russian Convention of 1907, and a poem from the pen of Mr. John Galsworthy, entitled 'Persia—Morituri,' reprinted from *The Nation*, are included. We commend its solidity of reasoning, its generosity and justice of feeling, and hope that its circulation will fulfil the expectations of its promoters. No. 1 of the Persia Committee Pamphlets.

Sanders (T. W.), *Window Gardens*, 1d.

Agricultural and Horticultural Association
One of the One and All Garden Books. These booklets, fertile in suggestion and advice, ought to be welcomed by the public. They are condensed and scientific, and at the same time not overburdened with irrelevant information.

FOREIGN.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

Lasteyrie (R. de), *L'Architecture religieuse en France à l'Époque romane, ses Origines, son Développement*, 30fr.

Paris, Picard
An exhaustive and monumental study of Romance architecture in France by the hand of a master. It embodies the quintessence of M. de Lasteyrie's lectures at the École des Chartes during the last thirty years, and brings us from the earliest origins of Christian architecture down to the dawn of the Gothic era. Admirable by reason of its broad treatment, its luminous attention to detail, and the way in which it brings out the great lines of development, it cannot fail to mark an epoch in the study of the period. It is beautifully illustrated by more than 700 plates.

Livres à Figures de l'École allemande des XVe. et XVIe. Siècles: Catalogue LXXXI., avec une préface, une table des artistes, une table

des villes d'impression, 328 facsimilés, et 3 planches hors texte, 10fr.

Florence, Olshchki
This is a beautiful and illuminating catalogue, and a tribute to the extraordinary picturesqueness, variety, and vividness of Renaissance decorative art. In graphic sequence it reveals the evolution of the art of book-ornamentation to the period beyond the death of Albert Dürer, when engraving declined. The numerous specimens of art forms woven round the initial letter are most interesting. The examples are mainly from Frankfurt, Cologne, Leipsic, Mayence, and Strasburg.

Meyer (Eduard), *Der Papyrus Fund von Elephantine*, 2m.

Leipsic, Hinrichs
What interests the author most, in this study of the papyri discovered at Elephantine, is the light they throw on the part played by Persia in the external development of the Jewish religion. The military colony of Jews, which since the sixth century B.C. had for generations inhabited this outpost, still worshipped as their fathers worshipped before the days of Ezra and Nehemiah, and even possessed a temple of their own. Within the short space of 98 pages Prof. Meyer reconstructs something of their life and its relations to the world around them, and this so skilfully that, however fragmentary, the picture is definite and vivid. The last part of the work deals with the remains of literature found by the explorers, and chiefly with the history of the wise Achigâr—a tale widely current throughout the literature of the East, which this Aramaic rendering enables us to recognize as the oldest known survival from a great substratum of common thought and art.

Poetry and Drama.

Croze (Austin de), *La Chanson populaire de l'Île de Corse, avec conclusion de M. Paul Fontana*.

Paris, Champion

For notice see p. 250.

History and Biography.

Karénine (Wladimir), *George Sand, sa Vie et ses Œuvres, 1838-48*, 7fr. 50.

Paris, Plon-Nourrit

For notice see p. 250.

Mitteilungen aus der Königlichen Bibliothek, herausgegeben von der Generalverwaltung: I. Briefe Friedrichs des Grossen an Thierot, herausgegeben von Emil Jacobs.

Berlin, Weidmann

We have here the first number of a series which should attract no little attention. Prof. Harnack, on behalf of the Board of Directors, announces that it is intended to publish from time to time selections from the treasures contained in the Königliche Bibliothek at Berlin—including not only accounts of MSS., autographs, old printed books, &c., but also reproductions of texts. The Directors have begun with these letters—written by Frederick the Great as Crown Prince to his French correspondent Thierot—in view of the coming jubilee of the King, who was the second founder of the Bibliothek. The letters themselves are interesting, though rather as giving fresh and amusing illustration of well-known traits in the character of Frederick than as affording much that is new.

Science.

Caillet (Albert L.), *Traitement Mental et Culture Spirituelle*, 4fr.

Paris, Vigot Frères
This book covers an extraordinarily large area, for it contains some mention of the histories and the teachings of the distinguished psycho-therapists of all countries; while special attention is given to Yoga methods and the subject of mesmerism. The author of a volume which deals with so many aspects of one subject cannot be accused of having an axe to grind, as is often the case with writers on these topics, and it is satisfactory to find the use of hypnotism strongly discouraged—a somewhat curious prohibition in view of the lengthy expositions of mechanical and other methods of suggestion.

Neugebauer (Dr. Paul V.), *Sternstafeln von 4000 vor Chr. bis zur Gegenwart*.

Leipsic, Hinrichs
This work—to be completed in three parts, of which this is the first—is intended as an aid to historians and students of literature who are not themselves astronomers, but need to check chronological statements by a reference to astronomical data. In a series of tables it gives the position of 518 stars, century by century, for six thousand years. The two following parts will give: (1) tables for sun, moon, and planets for the same length of time; and (2) tabulated statements of such other astronomical facts as are useful for work in history and letters.

Literary Gossip.

LAST WEEK there were sold in Edinburgh two volumes described in the auctioneer's catalogue as Burns's "Common-Place Books," "in the handwriting of the poet." Both were purchased by Mr. Hugh Hopkins of Glasgow for 65*l.* each. The volumes originally formed part of the Whiteford Mackenzie collection, sold in Edinburgh in 1886. At that sale one was bought for Sir Robert Jardine of Castle-milk for 310 guineas, and the other for Lord Rosebery for 270 guineas. The purchasers found, however, that the catalogue statement to the effect that the thirty-three pieces in the volumes were unpublished was misleading, as they were not the composition of Burns, but merely transcripts of verse which was in print before his day. In these circumstances the volumes were returned to the Misses Mackenzie, who have since died. The writer of a special article in *The Glasgow Herald* of February 24th gives good reasons for the contention that the volumes are not even the holograph of Burns.

Caution is needed in such cases. Some verses of similar origin were sent to us recently, and described as not in the published works of Burns. That was true, but the sender did not take the trouble to ascertain that they had been familiar as the work of a well-known contemporary and admirer of his for a century or so.

PROF. HOPE MOULTON delivered the first of his course of Hibbert Lectures on 'Zoroastrianism' at the University of London on Tuesday last. The course, as announced in the syllabus, covers the early history of the faith only, and the lecturer further announced that it would stop at the period of Alexander the Great. In his first lecture Prof. Moulton took the view, now common among philologists, that the original home of the Aryan or Indo-European race was in Europe, whence they migrated to Asia, and there split into two peoples, one stopping short in Persia, where they became the ancestors of the Iranians, while the other proceeded to India, and founded the Sanskrit literature. This separation, he thought, might be dated as early as the second millennium B.C.

In the course of his lecture Prof. Moulton expressed his entire dissent from the late James Darmesteter's theory that the Gâthas, now supposed to be the oldest part of the literature of which the Zend-Avesta forms part, owed much to borrowings from Philo of Alexandria, generally called Philo Judæus. The resemblance between the Powers of Philo, whom he makes intermediate between God and the world, and the Amshaspands or archangels of the Zend-Avesta, is too close to be accidental, and affects besides nearly all the religious speculation of the first Christian century. There does not seem enough evidence to decide definitely whether Philo, as Darmesteter thought,

invented this doctrine, the reformers of the Zoroastrian religion borrowing it from him three centuries later, or whether the Jews, as Prof. Moulton evidently thinks, acquired it during the Babylonian captivity, and carried it with them when sent back by Cyrus. In the latter case, what became of it between the days of Cyrus and those of Philo?

A MEETING of those favourable to the formation of a Bibliographical Society in Glasgow was held in the Council Room of the Royal Philosophical Society there on Thursday, February 22nd. Dr. David Murray occupied the chair. After a statement by the chairman showing the need for a body of the sort mainly designed to cover the West of Scotland, it was agreed to form the society, and a large and influential committee was appointed to draft the necessary rules and constitution. Over fifty have already intimated their intention of becoming members. The interim secretary is the Rev. W. J. Couper, 26, Circus Drive, Glasgow.

MR. S. B. JEVONS has been appointed literary adviser to the publishing house of Sampson Low, Marston & Co.

'THE PASSING OF WAR,' a new book by Canon W. L. Grane, will be published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. next Tuesday. The work is in some sense the complement of 'The Great Illusion,' by Mr. Norman Angell, and is based on the author's belief that the cult of blood and iron will only be exchanged for that of national fraternity by the growth of moral forces.

PROF. J. B. BURY's new work, 'The Eastern Roman Empire from the Fall of Irene to the Accession of Basil I. (A.D. 802-867),' will be ready shortly. While it is an independent work, it continues on a larger scale the Professor's 'History of the Later Roman Empire.' Messrs. Macmillan & Co. are the publishers.

MR. EDWARD CARPENTER's new book, 'The Drama of Love and Death: a Study of Human Evolution and Transfiguration,' will be published by Messrs. George Allen & Co. next Friday. The earlier chapters will be a kind of continuation of the author's 'Love's Coming of Age,' while the latter part deals with the problems of death and the world beyond. Throughout copious reference is made to recent discoveries in physics, biology, and psychical research.

MESSRS. LONGMANS are bringing out a sixpenny edition of Dr. J. N. Figgis's Hulsean Lectures, which, as was anticipated in our columns, have had a remarkable success. The new edition will contain a reply to criticisms. The same firm will shortly publish the lectures delivered by Dr. Figgis last spring at Harvard, which will be called 'Civilization at the Cross-Roads.'

'Some Things we have Remembered,' by Mr. P. M. Thornton, will also be published by the same firm. The object of

the author has been to record various matters of public interest contained in the century covered by a father and a son—Samuel Thornton, Admiral, 1797-1859, and Percy Melville Thornton, 1841-1911, for seventeen years M.P. for Clapham—members of the family of Thorntons of Birkin in Yorkshire, and allied to the Rices of Mothvey in Carmarthenshire.

MR. JOHN GALSWORTHY is publishing through Mr. Heinemann his first book of poetry, entitled 'Wild Oats: Moods, Songs, and Doggerels,' which will be ready on the 21st inst. Uniform with this volume will be 'The Lure of the Sea,' by Mr. J. E. Patterson, whose vivid autobiography, 'My Vagabondage,' we noticed last autumn.

MISS MARGARET B. CROSS has a new novel appearing with Messrs. Chatto & Windus next week. The book is entitled 'Up to Perrin's,' and, as the title implies, the scene is laid in the West Country.

Messrs. Chatto & Windus also announce a cheaper issue of Sir Walter Besant's four topographical books—'London,' 'Westminster,' 'East London,' and 'South London.' The new edition will contain all the original illustrations.

'ONE LOOK BACK,' the latest book by Mr. G. W. E. Russell, is a volume of reminiscences, not a collection of miscellaneous essays, and it covers the greater part of the social and political changes witnessed by Mr. Russell during his life. It will be issued by Messrs. Wells Gardner & Co.

'PICKWICK,' as is well-known, contains some lapses, "oversights," contraries, &c., owing to the haste and boisterous spirit of the writer. No true Pickwickian would wish a single one away. Messrs. Gay & Hancock are issuing a collection of these oddities, gathered by Mr. Percy Fitzgerald, who has already furnished some six treatises on 'Pickwick.'

CANON R. L. OTTLEY's new volume for Lent, entitled 'The Rule of Faith and Hope,' is announced for immediate publication in Mr. Robert Scott's "Library of Historic Theology." This work is an exposition of the Apostles' Creed from the devotional standpoint, the subject headings including 'The Mysteries of the Incarnate Life,' 'The Reality of Redemption,' and 'Mysticism and Prayer.'

OUR apologies are tendered for the carelessness which attributed in our last issue Mendelssohn's setting of the words "Watchman, will the night soon pass?" to Handel—a slip which more than one correspondent has already pointed out. In answer to others we may say that *The Athenæum* of April 24th, 1909 (p. 496), contains the verses, a quotation from which concluded our article on 'Industrial Unrest.'

BEGINNING with next week, we propose to follow our 'List of New Books' with a List of Forthcoming Books, particulars of the dates of which we shall be glad to receive as early as possible.

SCIENCE

Ruins of Desert Cathay: Personal Narrative of Explorations in Central Asia and Westernmost China. By M. Aurel Stein. 2 vols. (Macmillan & Co.)

As some authors publish their works first in parts and afterwards in book-form, so recent important contributions to geographical science have usually been preceded by shorter popular versions. Thus Sir Sven Hedin issued 'Adventures in Tibet' before his monumental 'Scientific Results,' and 'Trans-Himalaya' before another great work which has yet to appear. So also Dr. Stein sent forth 'Sand-buried Ruins of Khotan' before his 'Ancient Khotan,' and now he presents two massive volumes preliminary to a 'Detailed Report.' The procedure is sound because there are many readers for a well-told tale of travel, and few, comparatively, who would or could wade through the detailed works. But, unless great care be taken, the popular story is apt to exceed reasonable limits and encroach on the domain of the record on which it is based.

The object of the present book is to

"furnish the general reader with a personal record of the archaeological and geographical explorations which, during the years 1906-1908, I carried out under the orders of the Government of India in remote parts of Central Asia and Westernmost China."

In recognition Dr. Stein received the Founder's Gold Medal of the Royal Geographical Society; his detailed report, we are told, must take years to compile, and for many reasons be inaccessible to the general public whose interest he desires to enlist. We hope he may succeed, for his labour and judgment justify a favourable result; but many persons will have difficulty in tackling the 1,038 pages of this book, whilst others, frightened at its size, may avoid the task.

The work was undertaken in favourable circumstances with the prestige of official patronage. The Indian Survey Department provided men and money for the field operations, the results of which are shown in the creditable maps attached to the volumes. The Sappers and Miners supplied a Sikh corporal, Ram Singh (of whom more hereafter), who developed photographs, drew plans, and was in general a handy man.

It is impossible to mention the names of all the distinguished experts who have helped Dr. Stein, but a few may be given: Prof. A. Foucher of Paris assisted in Græco-Buddhist art; Sir Arthur Church in analyzing materials; M. E. Chavannes and Dr. Hoernle in the investigation of ancient Chinese and Indian Brahmi records; and Dr. Francke in Tibetan matters.

Examination of the scientific results of Dr. Stein's discoveries must be deferred till details are published; for the present some account of his journeys must suffice. To make this clear without a map is

not easy, for even geographers fail to remember the relative positions of towns or districts when they are not familiar with their names. The simplest plan is to imagine the scene of work as a great horseshoe set in the heart of Asia, with the open end to the East; the area enclosed is mainly desert, the Takla-makan to the West, and Gobi to the East. The toe of the shoe is the vast range of hills, the Roof of the World, about the Pamirs and the sources of the Oxus. From them the drainage of the western sides flows towards the Sea of Aral; that from the eastern slopes forms the Tarim or river, which, passing through the Takla-makan with ever-diminishing volume, is eventually lost in the terminal and migratory lake known as Lob- or Lop-nor. The northern boundary of the horseshoe is formed by the T'ien Shan; the southern by the Kuen-lun and the Altin Tagh, which bound Tibet on the north and extend to the ranges near Su-chou and Kan-chou. The best-known towns in the enclosure are Kashgar, where Great Britain and Russia have representatives; Yarkand, the commercial capital; and Khotan. Ak-su and Kara-shahr on the north side are the gates towards Russia.

Dr. Stein approached this country by a route nowadays unusual, though one whereby Greek influence and Buddhism entered. He left Abbottabad late in April, 1906, and marched through Swat and Dir to Chitral and Afghan Wakhán, where he was well received and taken care of by order of the ruler, whose liberality deserves recognition. Here he reached the Oxus near the part visited by Olufsen (*Athenæum*, November 25th, 1911), but on the opposite bank, and made his way by its sources to the Pamirs; thence he descended by Sar i-kol to Kashgar. The description of this journey fills a hundred pages, and is full of interest, recalling many events connected with frontier expeditions, such as the Edwardes and Fowler episode of 1895 and the siege of Chitral.

At Kashgar final preparations were made, and a Chinese secretary, by name Yin Ma Chiang, a "Ssu-yeh" or candidate for office, like the "ummedwar" of India, was engaged. His help throughout was of great value, and is suitably acknowledged. Here also Chinese hospitality was enjoyed; the Tao-ta'i entertained Mr. Macartney and Dr. Stein to lunch, a small, informal feast of eighteen courses,

"but all so neatly served and relatively wholesome that my apprehensions as to its results on one long accustomed to simple diet proved wholly unjustified.... At his table I first realized how much the attitude of the Chinese official class in the 'New Dominion' towards Western, in this case specially Russian, customs and imports had changed during the few years since my previous visit. There were clean well-ironed napkins, instead of the damp hot towels, for use during the meal. My conservative feelings received a shock when I was asked to seat myself at a table spread in white, that colour of mourning formerly tabooed on all festive occasions. Knife and fork were handled with perfect familiarity by our

convives, and eating-sticks seemed to lie on the table merely out of deference for time-honoured convention. It was curious to recognize in such changes small but significant effects of that great historical movement of Chinese 'reform' to which the Russo-Japanese War has given the final impulse."

From Kashgar, by way of Khargalik and Kökyar, the Kuen-lun range was explored and Khotan was reached; the oases are reported as extending into the desert further than they did five years before, the result of improved irrigation, which has led to expansion of towns and increased population. The mountains were again entered, special attention being given to the upper basins of the Kara Kash and Yurung Kash rivers. Here Dr. Stein was close to where Schlagintweit had passed, it is stated, in 1862; the date seems to require verification, for 1857 is, according to 'Chambers's Encyclopædia,' the year in which Adolf Schlagintweit crossed the ranges and was put to death by Yakub Beg. Hermann as well as Adolf seems to have penetrated into the Kuen-lun range, which in 1865 was crossed by Johnson, a surveyor whose route Dr. Stein wished to verify.

As winter approached, hill surveys were abandoned, and excavation of ruins in the desert was begun: first, near Khotan, and then westwards to Keriya, Endero, Charklik, &c., names familiar to readers of Sir Sven Hedin's and Dr. Stein's former books. Relics of the usual sort were found, including inscribed tablets with seals showing classical origin, which, strange to say, old manure heaps yielded in the greatest profusion. To the lay mind this would not seem testimony to their value; indeed, in view of the destruction resulting from war and fanaticism, treasure-hunting, and age and natural causes, it is a marvel that anything is left. The winter of 1906-7 was thus spent not far from the routes of Hsüan-tsang and Marco Polo; at a site marked Miran many interesting discoveries were made, the most remarkable being frescoes of winged figures, and a fresco frieze in a Buddhist shrine, representing, according to Prof. Foucher, a portion of the legend of King Vessantara, which is related on p. 490 of vol. i.

Before passing from Miran and Abdal, it is interesting to note that, in the records discovered, the name Nob seems to supply the phonetic link between Na-fo-po, used by Hsüan-tsang, and Lop, by Marco Polo, to describe the district. In Yule's 'Marco Polo' (ed. Cordier, i. pp. 197-203 fn.) an excellent note about the locality of the lake usually called by English geographers Lob-nor will be found. From Abdal Dr. Stein went westward to Tun-huang, otherwise Sha-chou, and on the way there first saw the remains of the Great Wall, with its watch-towers, and the site of the Jade Gate, "the barrier of the pleasant valley," where dwelt the officer in command of the fortifications.

Returning from the desert, he explored the cave temples of the "Thousand Buddhas." They are still a place of pilgrimage, so that archaeological activity

has to be restrained, and near them is the sanctuary of the crescent lake, with the famous rumbling sandhill. In one of the temples a library, in rolls of manuscripts, mostly Chinese, was discovered, and how Dr. Stein overcame the scruples of the priest in charge and became possessed of many beautiful paintings on silk showing scenes from the life-story of Buddha, figures of Bodhisattvas, &c., is well described. The manuscripts have not yet been, nor will they soon be, translated, as they filled twenty-four cases, which, with five more of paintings and art relics, are now in the British Museum. Some of the paintings are reproduced in colour, Plates VII. and IX. deserving special commendation.

At Yarkand Dr. Stein reduced his camp, sold his camels, and went on to Khotan, arriving on June 9th, 1908. There he packed his collections, but had not been long in the place when Naik Ram Singh, the man selected for photographic work, returned hopelessly blind. This Sikh, with the courage of his race, after losing the sight of one eye, persevered with his work; the other eye soon failed, but still he remained at his post in hope of recovery. That proving desperate, he rejoined at Khotan, but still believed he would regain his sight, and for reasons of caste he insisted on cooking his own food, in spite of burns and other accidents. But his case was hopeless, and he was taken to his native village, near Firozpur. He lived for a short time on a pension, which, in part, has been continued to his widow and daughter.

A final expedition to the sources of the Kara Kash and Yurung Kash was undertaken, and Dr. Stein had the misfortune to get frostbitten; he had to be carried to Leh, some 300 miles distant, where an operation was performed. It has, happily, proved successful, and he hopes

"that the gate will open for work in those fields to which cherished plans have been calling me ever since my youth, and which still remain unexplored."

Such is the story, greatly condensed, of some two and three-quarters years' work, and on the whole it is well told. There are, however, defects, some rather annoying, such as the introduction of foreign words when English equivalents are available and references in one volume to maps and plates or figures in another, and to ruins by letters and numbers nowhere to be found on the maps, while the maps themselves are on easily torn paper, and bound into volumes which weigh four pounds apiece. The spelling of Oriental words seems in cases to be odd, but a note prefixed to the index (which is well prepared) intimates that the system adopted by the International Congress of Orientalists has been followed. The illustrations, 333 in number, are admirable, well chosen, and well reproduced; besides these, there are coloured plates, panoramas, and the maps. Dr. Stein's work is a valuable contribution to our limited knowledge of a country abounding in interest, in which extremes of rigour are met alike on the hills and glaciers and in the sandy desert.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Men and Measures: a History of Weights and Measures, Ancient and Modern, by Edward Nicholson (Smith & Elder), is a perfect monument of industry, and teems with information on out-of-the-way points connected with the history of weights and measures of all kinds and in all countries. The author holds that there are no arbitrary standards of weights and measures, but that all have a directly scientific basis, or a lineage reaching, perhaps far back, to such a basis. Proceeding on these lines, Col. Nicholson goes on to unfold the history of measures of length—the story of the cubits; and the history of measures of capacity and of weight—the story of the talents—from the earliest Chaldean and Egyptian times, through their transformations in Greek and Roman times, down to their modifications as introduced into Britain, and the modern world generally. The earliest measures were, undoubtedly, those of length, but Col. Nicholson has a greatly exaggerated idea as to the accuracy with which measures of a definite length on the earth's surface (the meridian mile, as he calls it) could have been made sixty centuries ago. Not until the time of Eratosthenes, in the third century B.C., would it have been possible to determine such a length with any approach to modern accuracy, and a very little experience in practical measurements would demonstrate the unsoundness of the view held on this point by the author.

The chapters on measures of value—the history of currency—and on measures of time are full and interesting. There is an obvious misprint on p. 195, where the date of full moon in November, 1912, should be November 25, not "17" as printed; and we are amazed at the statement (on the same page) that agriculturists find the Epact useful in reckoning the moon's age. We should rather expect the farmer to exclaim with Bottom the weaver, "A calendar, a calendar! look in the almanac." We note another misprint on p. 198, in the chapter on 'Measures of Heat and of Density,' where, in the directions for converting Fahrenheit degrees into centigrade, "double the degrees" should read *halve* the degrees. The final chapters (on the metric system) are of such a character as to detract from the value of the work as an impartial and scientific survey of the entire field of its subject. The book itself, which demonstrates in a full and able manner the complexity and multiplicity of existing systems of weights and measures, might surely be used as an argument in favour of simplification and unification in these matters.

IN 1908 Dr. Robert Francis Scharff delivered in London a course of Swiney Lectures on 'The Geological History of the American Fauna.' These lectures, rewritten in an expanded form, and including brief references to the American flora, constitute *Distribution and Origin of Life in America* (Constable). The title is, perhaps, rather misleading, inasmuch as the work does not discuss the profound problem of the "Origin of Life," nor among the living things that are described is any place found for Man. But even with this limitation the work is sufficiently extensive: it evidently represents a great amount of research in the literature of zoology, paleontology, and zoogeography, and it is rich in interest to the geologist. Dr. Scharff is not a great believer in the accidental dispersal of organisms by means of

wind and wave, but holds that land communication is generally essential for the transmission of terrestrial and freshwater forms of life. If certain groups have originated in a particular area, and are now found scattered in isolated colonies far distant from their original centre, it seems fair to argue from their present discontinuous distribution as to the former position of land over which they must have migrated. This is what the author has done, in many cases with great ability and not without some boldness.

It must not, however, be overlooked that in the reconstruction of ancient geography many authorities will demand physical as well as biological or distributional evidence. In pre-glacial and early glacial times there was probably land communication between Europe and America through what are now Scotland, Iceland, Greenland, and Labrador; but the author, while recognizing this connexion, throws another land-bridge across the Atlantic, stretching from Lapland to North Greenland by way of Spitzbergen. Whilst the Atlantic was thus shut off from the Arctic Sea, the Pacific was also closed northwards by land across Bering Strait. It is held that the southern shores of these great land-bridges would be under the influence of comparatively warm ocean-currents, thus supporting Dr. Scharff's contention that, from biological evidence, the Glacial period was not one of extreme cold. Such a view has been occasionally held by certain other scientific writers, but it can hardly stand against the strong body of opposing evidence which the glacial geologist can bring forward.

ALREADY KNOWN as an enthusiastic student of evolution by his epic entitled 'Nebula to Man,' Mr. Henry R. Knipe now sends forth *Evolution in the Past* (Herbert & Daniel), which is planned on practically the same lines as its predecessor, but this time in sober prose. It is a comprehensive work, giving a popular yet accurate account of the long procession of living forms which have appeared upon the earth throughout the ages of the Past, and seeking to show the relationship between the successive forms and their forerunners.

The subject is one of much fascination for the inquirer, but obviously needs for its successful treatment a wealth of paleontological knowledge. Fortunately the author has shown himself not ill-equipped for the undertaking. The value of the book would perhaps not have been lessened by the omission of the tabular 'Chronology of the Earth,' which stands at the beginning of the volume. It needed a bold pen to write such words and figures as these: "Surface of the Earth so far solidified as to support vast seas, 100,000,000 B.C."; or the following item: "Foundational Ages extending over 70,000,000 years." Where so much is pure speculation and the opinions of the highest authorities are subject to serious modification as science advances, it seems rather dangerous, notwithstanding safeguards, to make any attempt at numerical precision in a work intended for the layman. The physical side of the volume is, however, but slight; its strength lies in its paleontology. To any one who desires to read the story of life upon our planet as revealed by the record of the rocks, and interpreted in the light of evolution, it would be difficult to recommend a safer or more pleasant guide than Mr. Knipe. His story is illustrated by many excellent plates, mainly by Miss Alice Woodward, who happily unites much scientific knowledge with artistic ability.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Feb. 22.—Sir Archibald Geikie, President, in the chair.—The Bakerian Lecture was delivered by Prof. H. L. Callendar, 'On the Variation of the Specific Heat of Water, Investigated by the Continuous Mixture Method.'

The experiments of Callendar and Barnes 'On the Variation of the Specific Heat of Water between 0° and 100° C. by the Continuous Electric Method' (*Phil. Trans. Roy. Soc., A*, 1902), with platinum thermometers, agreed with those of Lüdin by the method of mixture with mercury thermometers more closely than with those of any previous observers, but gave results nearly 1 per cent lower than Lüdin's over the range 60° to 90° C. Within the last year the results of Lüdin have been very closely reproduced by W. R. and W. E. Bousfield (*Phil. Trans., A*, 1911), employing a Dewar calorimeter electrically heated by a mercury resistance, the rise of temperature being observed by means of mercury thermometers standardized to 0.1° C. every 5°. The present investigation was designed to verify the results of Callendar and Barnes by a new and independent method, called the Continuous Mixture Method.

Dr C. Chree read a paper on a 'Short Index to Reports of Physical Observations—Electric, Magnetic, Meteorological, Seismological—made at Kew Observatory.'

Messrs. R. T. Lattey and H. T. Tizard read a paper 'On the Velocities of Ions in Dried Gases.' The authors have determined the velocities of positive and negative ions in dried hydrogen and carbon dioxide. The results obtained are completely parallel to those already obtained in a previous investigation on air (R. T. Lattey, *Proc. Roy. Soc.*, vol. lxxiv, p. 173). The velocity of positive ions is but little affected by the presence of moisture in the gas, and is proportional to the force (x), and inversely proportional to the pressure (p). The same relation approximately holds good for the velocity of negative ions in moist gases. When the gas is extremely dry, however, the negative ions are apparently very easily deprived of their customary envelope. Their velocity, therefore, does not increase proportionately to x/p , but at a very much greater rate.

Prof. T. H. Laby and Mr. P. W. Burbidge read a paper on 'The Observation by means of a String Electrometer of Fluctuations in the Ionization produced by γ -rays.' The authors claim to have demonstrated that there are fluctuations in the ionization produced by γ -rays, and have worked out the technique for future experiments, where the absolute amount of the fluctuation is very small. Further experiments are necessary before the experiments can be said to support either a corpuscular or pulse theory of γ -rays.

Mr. F. B. Pidduck read a paper on 'The Wave-Problem of Cauchy and Poisson for Finite Depth and Slightly Compressible Fluid.' The paper is in some respects a completion of a former one on the propagation of a disturbance in a fluid under gravity. The solution of the two-dimensional Cauchy-Poisson problem for finite depth is worked out numerically, the effect of limiting the depth being very considerable. The fact is brought to light that up to a certain point a limitation of the depth causes an increase in the elevation at a given point for a short interval of time after the beginning of the motion. The wider question presents itself as to the sense in which the initial disturbance can be said to be confined to a definite portion of the fluid. Difficulties connected with the assumption of incompressibility are avoided by considering a heavy compressible fluid. The application of an extension of Fourier's theorems, due to Orr, gives the solution of the problem of such a fluid held with every part in a given state of compression and then released, the free surface being maintained at constant pressure. The known formulae for incompressible fluid for both finite and infinite depth follow as limiting expressions, and it is possible to detect the existence of an advancing wave-front when the compressibility is different from zero.

Some papers originally announced for the meeting of February 15th, which was adjourned on account of the death of Lord Lister, were taken as read.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Feb. 22.—Mr. W. Dale read a paper on 'The Implement-bearing Gravel Beds of the Valley of the Lower Test,' in which he described the gravel pits which occur near Ramsey and Dunbridge, and showed a large quantity of palæolithic implements from them. These implements are diverse in form and in the condition of their patination. The gravel is usually

whitish at the top, which is attributed to the action of the weather in dissolving the iron and depositing it lower down. Implements from this horizon are whitish, while those at a lower depth are yellowish or brown, according to the colour of the gravel. At the base the implements usually have a double patination, caused by ferruginous matter being deposited more on one side than the other. Implements of various forms occur at all depths. At the Kimbridge Pit there is a preponderance of the rough ovate implements to which the name of "Chelles" has been given, while at the Dunbridge Pit there are found remarkably fine pointed implements, not water-worn, and with a white patina. Photographs of the sections were shown, and it was suggested that at Dunbridge, where the gravel rests on Bagshot sands and clays, the gravel may have been deposited under sub-glacial conditions. Some of the implements seem to have been made on the spot, while others must have travelled far.

Mr. L. Salzmänn read a paper on 'Excavations at Selsey in 1911.' The earthwork at Selsey is a roughly circular work about 250 ft. in diameter, consisting of ditch and vallum, evidently thrown up to protect the entrance of the harbour. Excavations undertaken last year showed that the vallum rests on a deposit of black earth 2 ft. in thickness. As this black earth contains pottery, not only of the Roman period, but also of the type usually ascribed to the fourteenth century, and in the case of one small fragment possibly as late as the sixteenth century, it is clear that the vallum is of comparatively late construction. The whole evidence points to the truth of the local tradition that the mound was thrown up at the time of the threatened Spanish invasion in 1588. Within the enclosed area were found two fragments of walls and quantities of building materials, of which the few worked stones are chisel-tooled. Of the smaller finds, the most interesting was a small bronze belt tag of the tenth century, ornamented with human figures, apparently unique.

ZOOLOGICAL.—Feb. 20.—Dr. A. Smith Woodward, V.-P., in the chair.—Dr. A. T. Masterman gave a demonstration, illustrated by a large number of lantern-slides, of recent investigations on age-determination in the scales of salmonids, with special reference to Wye salmon.

Dr. H. Lyster Jameson read a paper 'On the Structure of the Shell and Pearls of the Ceylon Pearl-Oyster (*Margaritifera vulgaris*, Schum.), with an Examination of the Cestode Theory of Pearl Production.' The author began by reviewing the work on the subject of pearl production carried out in Ceylon by Prof. Herdman and his successors. He examined the theory, enunciated by Prof. Herdman, that most Ceylon "fine" pearls had for their nuclei the remains of cestode larvae, and that these larvae, which are abundant in the liver and connective tissues of the pearl-oyster in Ceylon, were the "cause" of the most valuable pearls. Dr. Jameson maintained that the evidence adduced in support of this theory by Prof. Herdman and Mr. Hornell was insufficient, and that the only drawings in Prof. Herdman's 'Report on the Ceylon Pearl-Oyster Fisheries,' published by the Royal Society, that purported to show the remains of cestodes in the centres of pearls, were capable of other interpretation. Moreover, he could not find in any of the sections of pearls by Prof. Herdman, numbering some twenty-five or more, which the Professor had kindly allowed him to examine, a single instance of a cestode larva forming the nucleus. This observation was borne out by the results of the examination of between 300 and 400 pearls from *Margaritifera vulgaris*, mostly from Ceylon, but also comprising examples from the Persian Gulf, the Gulf of Cutch, the Mediterranean, Madagascar, New Caledonia, &c., none of which, on decalcification, showed cestode or other platyhelminthian larvae as nuclei. The centre of such a pearl was (where it consisted of material other than the nacre or other normal constituents of the shell) nearly always composed of an abnormal form of shell-substance, analogous to that formed to repair an injury to the shell, which, owing to its opacity, might easily be mistaken for a foreign body. These repair-substances were sometimes associated with granular matter, the origin of which was obscure; this matter might perhaps be derived from the tissues, or might possibly be of parasitic origin, but Dr. Jameson saw no reason for regarding it as derived from a cestode larva. He considered the presence of these cestodes as a disease parallel to, but independent of, "margarosis"; and compared the case of a pearl-oyster containing both cestodes and pearls to that of a man suffering simultaneously from echinococci and scabies, or of a

dog infested at the same time with tapeworms and mange. The author then discussed the systematic position of these cestode larvae. He claimed that he had found *Tylocephalum ludificans* in specimens of the Ceylon pearl-oyster in Dr. Kellart's collection in the British Museum, and had considered the possibility of their being concerned with pearl production, and dismissed the theory as untenable, previously to Prof. Herdman's original departure for Ceylon.

The second part of the paper dealt with the structure and formation of the shell and of pearls. The various repair-substances, which replace the ordinary shell-substances under abnormal or pathological conditions, were described, their relations to the normal substances of the shell discussed, and their occurrence in the pseudonuclei of pearls dealt with. The "calcospherules" which Prof. Herdman regarded as free concretions, and as the cause of "muscle pearls," were considered to be in fact minute pearls, composed of the hypostacum, or special shell-substance to which the muscles are attached. This conclusion had been reached independently by Rubbel, in Marburg. The author said that his observations on the real cause and mechanism which led to the formation of pearls in the Ceylon pearl-oyster were still too incomplete to communicate; but he maintained that, as he had already laid down in his 1902 paper, the real cause of pearl production would have to be sought, not in the nuclei or pseudonuclei of pearls, but rather in the pathological conditions under which the tissues of the mollusc gave rise to the pearl-sac. It was only in a few cases, like the trematode pearls in the common mussel, that the cause of the pearl-sac—i.e., in this case the trematode—remained to form the "nucleus" of the pearl and tell the tale of its origin. The author had found that, as observed by Prof. Herdman, a minority of Ceylon pearls may have foreign bodies, such as sand-grains, in their centres.

Mr. R. Shelford communicated a paper on 'Mimicry amongst the Blattidae, with a Revision of the Genus *Frosoplecta* Sauss.,' in which he dealt with a number of exceptions to this usually cryptically coloured type of cockroach, and in greater detail with the *Prosopecta*, nearly all the members of which present a remarkably close and detailed resemblance to other insects.

A paper entitled 'A Contribution to the Knowledge of the Spiders and Other Arachnids of Switzerland' was contributed by the Rev. O. Pickard-Cambridge. It was based on a number of specimens collected for the author by various persons at different times, and contained the description of one new species.

MICROSCOPICAL.—Feb. 21.—Mr. H. G. Plimmer, President, in the chair.—Mr. E. J. Spitta, with the help of the projection lantern, demonstrated the principles which should influence the photographer in the preparation of negatives from which coloured lantern-slides were subsequently to be made.

Mr. Rousset communicated the 'Fourth List of New Rotifera since 1889' (i.e., the date when Hudson and Gosse's 'Monograph of the Rotifera' was completed by the issue of the supplement, recording altogether 400 species at that time).

METEOROLOGICAL.—Feb. 21.—Dr. H. N. Dickson, President, in the chair.

Mr. J. Fairgrieve read a paper on 'The Thunderstorms of May 31, 1911.' He dealt with the thunderstorm which visited the London district on the Derby Day, and especially with the movement of the rain which accompanied the storm. Having obtained information from nearly 700 observers as to the time of rainfall or absence of rain, he has been able to prepare an interesting series of maps for each quarter of an hour from 12.30 to 8.45 P.M., showing the areas over which rain was actually falling.

Mr. R. G. K. Lempfert read a paper on 'The Thunderstorms of July 29, 1911.' This storm was of the line-squall type. The author has been able to trace the spread of the phenomenon across the British Isles, and he showed by a map of isochronous lines that it first struck the extreme end of Cornwall about 2 P.M. on July 29th, and passed across Shetland at 3 P.M. the next day. He pointed out that the disturbance may be regarded as the displacement of an easterly by a southerly current, but the process of displacement was unusually complicated. The general sequence of events seems to have been somewhat as follows. A moderate east wind was interrupted

suddenly by a squall from the south. After the squall had passed, the wind returned temporarily to an easterly direction, to be again interrupted by another squall from the south. A period of several hours of light and variable wind, during which easterly directions predominated, super-vened, and finally the wind settled down to a steady southerly or south-westerly wind of moderate force. In many cases the squalls were not accom-panied by rainfall. What appears to have struck observers most forcibly was the way in which huge quantities of dust were whirled up by the wind. Accounts from Cardiff state that dust was brought from the south side of the Bristol Channel by the squall winds, which did much structural damage.

Mr. S. Skinner read a paper on 'The Drosometer,' an instrument for measuring the amount of dew.

BRITISH NUMISMATIC.—Feb. 21.—Mr. Carlyon-Britton, President, in the chair.—The Rev. W. A. Laughlin and Messrs. H. J. Farrow, J. H. Searey, and L. A. Woodward were elected Members.

Mr. H. A. Parsons read a paper on 'The Dunwich Mint,' in which, after reviewing the history of the city in Saxon times, when, after attaining the height of its prosperity in the closing years of Ethelred II., its decline gradually set in owing to the denudation by the sea, he attributed four coins to the mint, namely, one of each of the last two types of Ethelred II., and one of each of the first two types of Canute. The author explained that the coins thus synchronized with its history, for only at that particular period would Dunwich be likely to have exercised its privilege of a mint.

Mr. B. Roth exhibited the contents of a remarkable archaeological hoard found at Peterborough in 1886. It comprised Roman coins and other relics, a bronze torque, and three ancient British coins. One of these was a gold stater similar to Evans, Plate B, No. 8, and the other two were silver money of the Iceni. Amongst other exhibitions were a copper siege-piece issued at Cork in 1647, by Mr. L. L. Fletcher; and the original die for the obverse of William Moosop's medal to Dr. Henry Quin, by Mr. F. W. Yeates. Mr. Henry Symonds presented a series of numismatic works to the Society's library.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

- Mon.** Royal Institution, 5.—General Meeting.
—Victoria and Albert Museum, 5.—'The Later English Renaissance: Inigo Jones and his Works,' Mr. B. Fletcher.
—Society of Engineers, 7.30.—'The Trolley Vehicle System of Railless Traction,' Mr. H. C. Adams.
—Aristotelian, 8.—'A Theory of Material Fallacies,' Mr. H. S. Shalton.
—Institute of British Architects, 8.—
—Royal Academy, 8.—'Oils, Varnishes, and Mediums,' Prof. A. P. Laurie.
—Society of Arts, 8.—'The Loom and Spindle: Past, Present, and Future,' Lecture II., Mr. L. Hooper. (Lecture I., Jan. 22.)
Tues. Royal Institution, 3.—'Optical Determination of Strains, and some Applications to Engineering Problems,' Lecture II., Prof. E. G. Coker.
—British Museum, 4.30.—'Early Christian Architecture,' Mr. B. Fletcher.
—Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies, 4.30.
—Institution of Civil Engineers, 5.—'Roller and Ball Bearings,' and 'The Testing of Anti-Friction Bearing Metals,' Prof. J. Goodman.
—Anthropological Institute, 8.15.—'The Tribes of the Central Provinces of Southern Nigeria,' Mr. N. W. Thomas.
—Zoological, 8.30.—'The Classification, Morphology, and Evolution of the Echinoida Holothyriformes,' Mr. H. L. Hawking; 'Blood Parasites found in the Zoological Gardens during the four years 1908-11,' Mr. H. G. Plimmer; and other papers.
Wed. Archaeological Institute, 4.30.—'Old Bridges in England and Wales,' Mr. A. Salway.
—Entomological, 8.—
—Royal Academy, 8.—'Grounds, and the Methods of Painting,' Prof. A. P. Laurie.
—Society of Arts, 8.—'Some Modern Problems of Illumination: the Measurement and Comparison of Light Sources,' Mr. T. Thorne Baker.
Thurs. Royal Institution, 3.—'Wellington's Army,' Lecture II., Prof. G. Oman.
—Royal, 4.30.—'On the Devitrification of Silica Glass,' and 'The Volatility of Metals of the Platinum Group,' Sir W. Crookes; 'An Optical Lead-Extension Indicator, together with some Diagrams obtained therewith,' Prof. W. K. Dalby; 'The Velocity of the Secondary Cathode Particles ejected by the characteristic Röntgen Rays,' Mr. H. Whiddington; and other papers.
—British Archaeological Association, 5.—'The Site of the Globe Theatre,' Mr. W. Martin.
—Institution of Electrical Engineers, 8.—'Tariffs for Electrical Energy, with Particular Reference to Domestic Tariffs,' Mr. W. W. Lakin.
—Linnean, 8.—'Internodes of Calamites,' Prof. P. Groom; 'On *Psymophyllum mayna*, sp.n., from the Lower Carboniferous Rocks of Newfoundland, together with a Revision of the Genus and Remarks on its Affinities,' Mr. E. A. Newell Arber; 'Historic Doubts about Vauquelin's, Ser. T. R. H. Stebbing.
—Chemical, 8.30.—'Isomeric Change of Diacylanilides into Acylaminoketones: Transformation of Diisopropylparachloro- and parabromo- anilines into the Isomeric Benzoylchloro- and bromo- amino Benzophenones,' Mr. A. Angel; 'The Chemistry of the Glutamic Acids,' Part III., Messrs. N. Bland and J. F. Thorpe; 'Asymmetric Quinquevalent Nitrogen Compounds of Simple Molecular Constitution,' Messrs. W. J. Pope and J. Read; 'The Interaction of Phosphorus and Potassium Hydroxide Solution,' Mr. M. N. Bamber; and other papers.
Fri. Astronomical, 5.
—Royal Academy, 8.—'The Chemistry of Building Stones and Cements,' Prof. A. P. Laurie.
—Royal Institution, 9.—'The Effects of the Thirty Years' War,' Dr. A. W. Ward.
Sat. Royal Institution, 3.—'Molecular Physics,' Lecture III., Prof. Sir J. J. Thomson.

Science Gossip.

THE problems of genetics are coming very rapidly to the front, and seem likely to receive a great deal of attention in the present year. M. Blaringhem, in his inaugural address at the Sorbonne published last Saturday, summed up recent discussions on the subject by declaring that sudden and transmissible changes in pure stocks are the way in which the characteristics of species and varieties make their appearance; and that the cause of these must be looked for in differences of the chemical constitution of the protoplasm. We are therefore brought back to chemistry to discover the ultimate cause of the differentiation of species, which, as M. Blaringhem reminded his audience, is what M. Armand Gautier predicted twenty-three years ago.

EVERY new science seems to demand an "Institute" nowadays; and the foundation at Brussels is announced of one for what is magniloquently called Universal Plasmology and Bio-mechanics. Its committee claims to be international, and the names upon it which should be most familiar to readers of *The Athenæum* are those of M. Raphaël Dubois (of Lyons), Dr. Stéphane Leduc (of Nantes), Dr. von Schrön (of Naples), and Prof. Jacques Loeb (of New York). To judge by the recent work of these distinguished scholars, the Institute will chiefly concern itself with researches into the origin of life, as illustrated by the experiments in the production of artificial cells by M. Dubois and Dr. Leduc, in the formation of crystals by Dr. von Schrön, and in parthenogenesis by Dr. Loeb. It will issue a periodical review, and the Secretary is Prof. Léon Guinet of Brussels.

THE BRITISH ASTRONOMICAL ASSOCIATION has just published a memoir of original observations of variable stars made by twenty-five of its members in the five years 1905-9 inclusive. This particular branch of astronomy, which is likely to prove of much value in the study of stellar physics, and already forms the basis of promising hypotheses, is not practised at the national observatories, that at Harvard College being the only large observatory where it is followed systematically, and this amateur organization ably fills the want, so far as its resources allow, for Great Britain. That its task is worthily done may be judged from the facts that the Royal Society made a substantial grant towards the expense of publication of this memoir, and that the observations of the Association receive full recognition from the leading astronomers of other countries, as well as of our own. The present volume contains observations of twenty-five long-period variables, including the "wonderful" star Omicron Ceti, the first recognized as a variable, which is sometimes as bright as the Pole star, but fades after a few weeks.

DR. E. T. WHITTAKER, who has been appointed Professor of Mathematics in Edinburgh University in succession to the late Dr. Chrystal, has filled since February, 1906, the Chair of Andrews Professor in the University of Dublin, which carries with it the Directorship of the Observatory at Dunsink, and the title of Royal Astronomer of Ireland. Dr. Whittaker had an astronomical record before 1906, for he held the Sheepshanks Astronomical Exhibition when at Trinity College, Cambridge, and served as Hon. Secretary of the Royal Astronomical Society for five years, but his tastes evidently lie in the direction of mathematics and physics rather than in that of practical astronomy.

FINE ARTS

Greece and Babylon: a Comparative Sketch of Mesopotamian, Anatolian, and Hellenic Religions. By Lewis R. Farnell. (Edinburgh, T. & T. Clark.)

THESE very interesting and suggestive lectures are the work of a master who has devoted years to the study of ancient religions, and published standard books on the subject. His style is easy and correct, though he does use the word *phenomenal* loosely when he speaks of the keeping of sacred prostitutes about a temple as a "phenomenal practice." It seems to have been a very real one, and widely spread through Semitic lands. He rightly distinguishes it from the sacrifice of virginity, of which Herodotus tells us among the Babylonians, and he is much perplexed concerning its meaning. Quite apart from mystical explanations, there is an obvious, but probably too vulgar solution. Such a class was undoubtedly a perennial source of income to the temple. A city like Corinth was exactly the place where these people would be most profitable. It is, indeed, among the curious vagaries of the human mind that in some highly civilized societies sexual asceticism was not in high esteem, and the opposite was practised as a religious rite, while in others the latter was regarded as the lowest degradation, and the repression of all such animal instincts as the ideal of purity and piety.

On the other hand, the likenesses between the religious beliefs and practices of widely separate nations are often, in primitive conditions at least, so great that it requires all Dr. Farnell's authority to prevent us from assuming that there must be a common origin. Take, for example, the Babylonian and the Greek beliefs about the next or lower world:—

"Both accept as an undoubted fact the continued existence of the soul after death, and both imagine this existence as shadowy, profitless, and gloomy. Both also vaguely locate the abode of the soul under the earth, with a downward entrance somewhere in the West. In both we find the idea of a nether river to be crossed, or the 'waters of death'; of a porter at the gates of hell, and of a god or goddess rulers of the lower world."

Yet all this likeness is worth nothing as evidence, if we find some strong contrasts, because such similarities are perpetually cropping up in all ethnological studies.

Striking differences weigh far more with Dr. Farnell, and we are disposed to agree with him, but it were well if we had from him some general discussion on this curious subject. We find him much less inclined to dogmatize on remote and uncertain things than the folk-lorists, but even he is sometimes betrayed into a trenchant judgment like the following:—

"It has often been popularly and lightly maintained that the Hellenic deities were subordinate to a power called Fate. This

is a shallow misjudgment based on the misinterpretation of some phrases in Homer. We may be certain that the aboriginal Hellene was incapable of so gloomy an abstraction," &c.

Dr. Farnell may be right, but we cannot go with him so easily. The feeling of a dreadful Fate hanging over the house of Œdipus or of Atreus, which no god could avert, is surely immanent in the great tragedy of Æschylus. It is, of course, inconsistent with an omnipotent Zeus, but, as the author tells us a dozen times, such inconsistencies are common in all early religions. To say that the Hellene, as we know him, was incapable of framing gloomy pictures is not, we think, sustainable. What the aboriginal Hellene could or could not imagine is a matter of mere speculation.

The general scheme of these brilliant lectures is to compare the Babylonian and Hittite and early Semitic religions with the Greek. But it must be the earliest Greek we know, and this is unfortunately a millennium at least later than the wonderful documents recovered from Babylonia. Dr. Farnell is quite right when he says that various cults practised in the early Greece of history—nay, even many found in Pausanias—have their origin centuries before, and are probably derived from the pre-Hellenic (Ægean) population of the country. But all these huge intervals and gaps in our knowledge make his conclusions largely provisional, as he candidly tells us. The most curious gap in the plan of his book is the omission of all comparison of Greek with Egyptian religion (except in a passing sentence). Surely, if likenesses of cult or ideas with Babylonians, Assyrians, Hittites, and Phœnicians are worth discussing, Egypt had every right to be considered, since we can prove mercantile intercourse of Egypt with Mycænæan Greece, whereas Mesopotamia was hidden far away in the heart of a continent. There must have been some distinct reason for this omission, and we wish Dr. Farnell had told it to us, for a diligent perusal of his book has not disclosed it.

The longest and last chapter is on a comparison of the rituals of the nations discussed, and here the author has shown great learning and not a little ingenuity. But to us the problem of finding out what a ritual means seems rather hopeless, since the very people who use it have come by long use to perform it automatically, or have forgotten all about its significance. Even in our modern Europe a vast number of people practise a religion, and observe cults, of which they understand little, and which they could not explain to any inquirer; how much more must this be the case among primitive peoples, without the common use of letters! Nor can it be doubted that if one of the ancient Babylonian or Hittite priests were revived from the dead, and told the wonderful explanations invented by the learned of to-day for the mysteries of his cult, he would regard many of them with pity or

with contempt, if not with profound amusement. Nevertheless the comparative method has made some conclusions probable, and if the further study of comparative religion be carried on with the patience, the candour, and the caution that Dr. Farnell displays, this inquiry may, after some time, have a claim to be called a science. If we could but find a key to the Cretan scripts, it would illuminate much of the old Ægean civilization. But without some bilingual texts, there seems little hope; for even the Etruscan, which is probably an old Ægean language, has resisted all our attempts on account of the strangeness of its vocabulary.

EXHIBITIONS.

THE selected water-colour drawings at Messrs. Agnew's (in aid of the Artists' General Benevolent Institution) are presented in a way which must make it difficult for a casual visitor to do justice to the accomplished work which patient investigation reveals—we are presented with a large number of gold frames of "fidgety" pattern, the pictures are crowded together, and the smaller and better drawings are overshadowed by a number of large and bad ones.

No. 99, *Roslyn Castle*, by T. Hearne, is an example of the somewhat coldly correct drawing-master's product. It is delightful to look at, as is any work in which the artist is completely absorbed in his task, but its intention is as much to instruct as to delight, and it is, as a rule, only when they retain this utilitarian object of workaday record that the water-colours here remain respectable. The swift accuracy of Callow's pencil work, reinforced by businesslike washes, is only spoilt in No. 122 (*Stadthaus, Lucerne*) by the showy, meretricious sky, introduced as a decorative afterthought, and this criticism in some form or another might be passed on most of his work here. Compare again J. Holland's large and cloying drawing *The Rialto, Venice* (86), with the delicate precision of the perspective of waterside palaces which makes the central passage of No. 59, *A Palace on the Giudecca*, by the same artist. This work also is made into a would-be attractive picture by the introduction of a gondola which is false in colour, and fails to be flat on the water.

When Turner set out to please by picture-making he was, of course, infinitely better equipped than Holland, yet even Turner in his later work, while master of every technical adroitness, had not the fine æsthetic sense needed to make this, the play of the water-colour painter, as respectable as his earlier and severer manner. In No. 24, *Exeter*, it makes us a little uneasy to see so slender a body of paint teased and fretted in the perpetual endeavour to provide little exciting episodes, although it is parcelled out with considerable skill into large groups of hot and cold colour with a view to maintaining as much tranquillity as possible. With infinitely less device his *Wells Cathedral* (27) is far more dignified in its unpretentious exactness. A good drawing by S. Prout, No. 109, *Old Church and Shops in a Brittany Town*; two excellent examples of J. Downman, Nos. 112 and 161; and a dignified *White House, Chelsea Reach*, by T. Girtin (28) should also be mentioned. Millais's tiny version of *The Vale of Rest* (138) looks more like a copy

from the picture than a study for it. The indifference to truth of tone in the painting of the nuns' coifs detracts much from the sentiment of the scene.

Among the original etchings shown at Messrs. Connell & Sons' Gallery are many which have the virtues current among contemporary etchers—a tolerable technical capacity, acquaintance with good models, and in a negative sense good taste. *The Tate Gallery* (11), by Mr. Nathaniel Sparks; *Place du Centre, Morlaix* (22), by Mr. Ian Strang; *Stock Exchange, Glasgow* (28), by Mr. T. Maxwell; *Church of the Holy Sepulchre* (29), by Mr. William Hole; *Landermere, Essex* (70), by Mr. Martin Hardie; and *Buckingham Palace* (78), by Mr. William Walker, are all much about the same respectable level of distinction. Mr. D. Y. Cameron's *Door of the Mosque* (40) shows more power of sustained effort than the works already cited, but is in that mood of polite receptivity towards an architect's design which makes least demand on the etcher's powers of draughtsmanship; it is almost an "elevation." Mr. Strang's *The Column* (20) grapples with a simple problem in perspective not too successfully. The fact that the principal horizontal surfaces are not kept horizontal disturbs the impressiveness of what would otherwise be a dignified design. His other plate, *The Shopwindow* (82), is lively and freshly observed. It has a certain unreality, because the (presumably) dummy figures in the window are so much more lifelike than the crowd of real people outside.

The three further rooms at the Baillie Gallery are occupied by Miss Mary MacRae, Mr. Ralph Smith, and Rustom Vicaji with work which does not rise above the level of the flood of water-colours which flows perennially through West-End galleries. In the first room there is a well-observed sketch, *Cliffs, Berneval* (46), by Mr. R. G. Eves, but the knowledge of natural colour shown here, and in a less degree in No. 47, *A Lane at Berneval*, fails him in his portraits, which are pitilessly objective—No. 45, *Sir Herbert Cozens-Hardy*, is the best.

PICTURE SALES.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE sold last Saturday the following pictures: Allan Ramsay, King George III., in Garter robes, seated, holding the sceptre in his right hand; Queen Charlotte, in white and gold brocade dress, with red velvet train lined with ermine, seated (whole-lengths, a pair), 262*l.* 10*s.* F. Cotes, Lady Frederick, in white dress with blue sash, resting her head on her left hand, 304*l.* 10*s.* Raeburn, Mrs. Hay of Mordington, Berwickshire, in dark dress, and grey shawl with spotted border, white head-dress, seated, 304*l.* 10*s.* Hoppner, Marquis de Sivrac, in dark-blue coat, with white vest and stock, 315*l.*; Mrs. Mantelini, in white dress with muslin veil, resting her right arm on a stone ledge, 336*l.* J. van Goyen, A Frozen River, with sledge, skaters, and other figures, 220*l.* 10*s.* A. Ysenbrant, The Madonna, in red dress and blue robe, nursing the Infant Saviour, 325*l.* 10*s.* J. Crome, The Trout-Stream, a peasant angling from a rustic bridge, three sheep on the right, 241*l.* 10*s.*

Messrs. Sotheby have sold recently the following: H. Fantin-Latour, Roses in a Vase, painting, 250*l.* J. R. Smith, Mrs. Carnac, mezzotint after Reynolds, 67*l.* Elizabeth Judkins, Mrs. Abington, after the same, 46*l.* Henry Alken, a series of eight plates of Fox-hunting, after W. P. Hodges, 186*l.*

COINS AND MEDALS.

MESSRS. SOTHEY'S sale of coins and medals, held on Thursday, February 21st, and the following day, included an Officer's Gold Medal for the Capture of Seringapatam, 1799, 70*l.* Naval General Service Medal, with bar for the Onyx, January 1st, 1800, 15*l.* Military General Service, with ten bars, 15*l.* 10*s.* Portrait Medal by Pastorino of Alessandro Guarini, 1556, 20*l.*

Fine Art Gossip.

MR. FRANK BRAMLEY has been at work for the last three years upon a "one-man" exhibition which is to take place shortly at the Leicester Galleries, Leicester Square, where he will be represented by fifty canvases.

THE FIFTY-EIGHTH EXHIBITION of the Water-Colour Society of Ireland opened this week at the Leinster Hall, Dublin. The exhibition is of unusual excellence, especially in landscape work. Amongst the exhibitors are Mr. Lee Hankey, Miss Rose Barton, Mr. Bingham MacGuinness, Mr. R. Orpen, and Miss Mildred Butler.

M. EMILE BLÉMONT, the French poet, has announced his intention of bequeathing to the Louvre one of Fantin-Latour's famous portrait groups known as 'Le Coin de Table.'

AN important loan exhibition of portrait paintings by Ricard and sculpture by Carpeaux will be held during May in the Orangery of the Tuileries. This will be the first assembly of representative works by Ricard, and many well-known collectors are supporting the exhibition.

THE Salon of the Decorative Artists, which opened yesterday (Friday) at the Pavillon de Marsan, Paris, is full of interesting work. Among the more important exhibits are the interiors by Baignères and Mares, the groups of furniture by Gaillard, André Groult, Jallot, and Sue, the decorative panels by M. Henri de Waroquier, pottery by Simmen, the embroidered curtains of Madame Ory-Robin, and the remarkable printed fabrics of MM. Jean Deville and Émile Roustan.

THE exhibition of the Italian Futurist painters at MM. Bernheim's Galleries, Rue Richemont, Paris, has now been succeeded by a collection of the sane, vigorous paintings of M. Lucien Simon, whose art is greatly admired by Mr. Brangwyn and other English artists.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. expect to publish this month 'The Venetian School of Painting,' by Miss Evelyn March Phillipps, who hopes to supply a want, as there exists in English no work which deals as a whole with the Venetian School and its masters. The author has attempted to estimate the painters, to set them in relation to one another, and help the reader not only to trace the evolution of the school from dawn to decline, but also to realize what it was, and what was the philosophy of life which it represented.

THE death of Mr. W. Harcourt Hooper in his 78th year removes one of the last of the wood engravers who were associated with that art at its best period. He worked for *The Illustrated News* in the fifties of the last century, and for such artists as Fred Walker, Du Maurier, Leech, and Millais. From 1891 to 1896 he was engaged in the Kilmiscott Press, for which he did a great deal of excellent engraving.

By the death on February 22nd, in his 82nd year, of Mr. Bruce Home, Curator of the Municipal Museum, Edinburgh has lost one of the chief authorities on the history of the city. Originally a music printer, Mr. Bruce Home became early enthusiastic about the conservation of the old monuments of his city. His chief work was a series of drawings of 'Old Houses in Edinburgh,' but several papers in the *Transactions* of the Old Edinburgh Club also testify his antiquarian knowledge. He was president of the Rymours Club.

MUSIC

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

THERE are certain analogies between colour and sound which have often been described and discussed: emotion is called into play by both; both are produced by vibrations; and, again, there are seven notes and seven colours. Sir Hubert von Herkomer, in an Introductory Note to *Colour-Music, the Art of Mobile Colour*, by A. Wallace Rimington (Hutchinson), thinks that the author may have overstated his case, but, he adds, "much allowance must be made for the enthusiasm of the pioneer." The author has invented an instrument which he calls a "colour-organ." It has a musical keyboard, by means of which he projects colours on to a screen, and the spectrum-band is split up in accordance with the musical octave. That keyboard can be either mute, or made to produce musical sounds simultaneously with the colours. Colour, as Mr. Rimington remarks, has always been more or less associated with form, and he therefore feels that it will be difficult for persons, especially painters, to consider a pure colour-art. But if colour-sense were stimulated and developed, it would, he says, and very truly, "apart from any possible artistic or emotional value, benefit all the arts into which colour enters." The author declares that in many sunsets there is little form, and in some there is none, yet, he adds, "there are few people who cannot admire a sunset." Of course the beautiful colouring can be enjoyed, just as the beautiful sounds of a fine voice or instrument can; but, as an art, music appeals to the intellect as much as to the emotions: it is a science as well as an art. The interest of the mingling and moving of colours, as shown in the experiments made by Mr. Rimington by means of his colour-organ, must be great:—

"To sit at this instrument and improvise for half an hour whilst watching the ever-varying combinations of colour on the screen produced by the playing is not only an unspeakable delight, but of real health-giving effect on the sense of colour."

Such is the testimony of Sir Hubert Herkomer. Whether the author will evolve a colour-art is open to question, but, to quote Sir Hubert Herkomer once more,

"There is so much in the author's experiments, opening out such vistas of possibilities, that the whole matter should be carefully investigated before judgment is given."

A colour-art would appeal, no doubt, to the modern leaders of the impressionistic school. Debussy, to give only one instance, in his 'Nuages' Nocturne tries to depict "the slow, solemn movement of the clouds dissolving in grey tints lightly touched with white."

Chap. xiii., 'Remarks upon Criticisms,' also chap. xiv., will greatly help readers in forming an opinion on the merits of the new art. Chap. xii., containing the opinions of scientific men on the resemblances between colour and sound, is particularly interesting.

SOME of the essays in *Music and its Aspects*, by Henry F. Gosling (Henry J. Drane), appeared originally in *Cremona*, but these have been greatly enlarged. The author deals with a variety of subjects, but he does not throw much fresh light on them. He also quotes copiously from various writers, the names of most of them being familiar. Some of his own statements are, however, rather startling. He speaks of Bach's great technical

resources, but considers his music "almost unemotional"; and discovers in it, instead of melody, "intellectual structure." This judgment is severe, even curious, for later in the book we are informed that in melody Bach "is quite on a level with any of the great masters that followed him." Again, 'Dido and Æneas' is said to be Purcell's "first" opera, whereas it was really the only one that composer wrote; and a few pages further on we are told, that "Purcell's operas were quite equal to those of his contemporaries"! We give one more of Mr. Gosling's opinions, and all three show that his book is not at all points invulnerable. He admits Verdi's "wealth of melody," but many Italian operas—among which the reader gathers that those of Verdi are included—are described by him as "all jam and puff-paste."

Musical Gossip.

THE performance of Strauss's symphonic poem 'Ein Heldenleben' at the London Symphony Orchestra concert last Monday evening at Queen's Hall was the special feature of the evening. Of Herr Mengelberg's admirable conducting we have recently spoken. His reading of Schubert's romantic 'Unfinished' Symphony, though everything was in perfect order, did not create a marked impression, whereas in the Strauss there was not only masterly command of the music, but also genuine enthusiasm. Franz von Vecsey, who first appeared in London as a prodigy eight years ago, gave an excellent performance of the Brahms Concerto.

MR. BEECHAM gave the first of two orchestral concerts at the Æolian Hall last Saturday afternoon. His interesting programme included French and Italian music, vocal and instrumental, of the eighteenth century. The singers were Miss Olga Loewenthal and Mr. Bertram Binyon.

AT the fifth concert of the Classical Society at Bechstein Hall last Wednesday two rarely heard works were performed: one, Mozart's Serenade in B flat major for wood-wind without flutes, but with bassett-horns and contra-bassoon, and four horns; the other, Dvorák's Serenade in D minor for wood-wind, three horns, and cello and double-bass. Both works are interesting, for both composers were skilled in matters dealing with tone-colour. The performances were excellent. Miss Fanny Davies played Schumann's Sonata in F sharp minor with thought and feeling.

MR. ALFRED M. HALE's orchestral concert, largely devoted to his own compositions, at Queen's Hall on Wednesday evening opened with a spirited performance by the Queen's Hall Orchestra, under the direction of Sir Henry J. Wood. This was followed by a long excerpt from Mr. Hale's opera 'The Tempest,' the libretto of which consists of the actual words of Shakespeare's play. The composer is ambitious, but ambition of itself will not bring about a great opera. Mendelssohn was hit off as one who had little to say, but said it very well. Of Mr. Hale we must say that he has very little to say, and even that is expressed in a feeble, and, as regards the declamatory part, monotonous manner.

OF the young pianist Mlle. Susanne Morvay we spoke in high terms last year. At her concert on Wednesday evening at the Æolian Hall she again displayed qualities of a very high order. Her rendering of the Bach-Liszt Fugue in G minor was dignified,

while in her performance of Beethoven's *F* minor Sonata, Op. 57, except that the last movement was not quite so good as the first, owing perhaps to excitement, she fully brought out the grandeur and poetry of the composer's 'Tempest' music.

By permission of the Dean, J. S. Bach's *Passion Music* according to St. John, with full orchestral accompaniment, will be sung by the Bach Choir under the conductorship of Dr. Hugh P. Allen, in Westminster Abbey, on Friday evening, March 29th. The soloists will be Miss Rhoda von Glehn, Miss Norah Dawnay, Mr. Gervase Elwes, Mr. J. Campbell McInnes, and Mr. Frederick Ranalow. Admission will be by ticket, to be obtained through members of the Bach Choir only.

FORTY-FIVE British choirs have entered for the International Choral Competition to be held at Paris, May 26th-28th. Each choir has to sing the stated test-piece, and music of its own choice.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

CONC.	Concert, 3, Royal Albert Hall.
SUNDAY	Sunday Concert Society, 3.30, Queen's Hall.
TECH.	Sunday League Concert, 7, Queen's Hall.
F. S.	F. S. Kelly's Pianoforte Recital, 3, Aeolian Hall.
PROCTER	Procter Brown's Song Recital, 8.15, Aeolian Hall.
FRÉDÉRIC	Frédéric de Lara's Recital, 8.15, Steinway Hall.
DR. DEANO	Dr. Deano Brando's Pianoforte Recital, 8.15, Bechstein Hall.
MARION	Marion Cori and Minnie Melville's Song Recital, 8.30, Aeolian Hall.
WED.	Classical Concert Society, 3, Bechstein Hall.
SMALLWOOD	Smallwood Metcalfe's Recital, 8.10, Queen's Hall.
ELLA	Ella Ulrich's Pianoforte Recital, 8.15, Steinway Hall.
FRANZ	Franz von Vecsey's Violin Recital, 8.30, Bechstein Hall.
BERYL	Beryl Freeman's Song Recital, 8.15, Bechstein Hall.
BROADWOOD	Broadwood Concert, 8.30, Aeolian Hall.
MARGERY	Margery Courtney and Constantine Morris's Vocal Recital, 8.15, Bechstein Hall.
SAT.	Chappell Ballad Concert, 2.30, Queen's Hall.
BARNES	Barnes-Phillips Concert, 3, Bechstein Hall.

DRAMA

'98-9' AT THE CRITERION.

ANONYMITY is a pose which it is rarely wise for the playwright to adopt. "G. B. S." may do it with impunity, because his style so easily betrays itself. Mr. Loraine, therefore, was well advised not to keep the authorship of '98-9' a secret for long. Miss Gertrude Kingston tried this course of mystification at the Little Theatre, and abandoned it. There is always the possibility that the public may fail to be impressed and take no interest in the revelation. Even the new Criterion comedy, brimful as it is of wit, and rich in fun and ingenuity as are some of its situations, is not of sufficient importance to make such an experiment worth while. For, after all, its scheme and its thesis are not enormously original. There were dashing lovers and "dear Lady Disdains" before the age of Bernard Shaw, and the moral that it is unsound policy to assail with a display of force and all the airs of conquest a woman who is only too ready to surrender is not a novelty in the theatre.

It is the consistently entertaining dialogue, the audacity of some of the hero's devices for capturing his shy victim, and the author's adroit use of the latest scientific inventions which will ensure popularity for '98-9' when a few scenes have been cut out and its pace has been quickened. He makes great play with both the aeroplane and the cinematograph—the sounds accompanying the flight and descent of the former are very successfully imitated, and the latter is artfully

employed to convict the heroine of having lied about her feelings to her lover. Such mechanical effects, however, would be a small matter in themselves did they not suggest that Mr. Fernald is alive to the ideas which are finding expression to-day, notably on the subject of marriage. If his characters are little more than puppets, their talk has thoughtfulness as well as vivacity.

The most amusing act of the play is the last, in which Stanley Miles makes his final effort to break down Grace Challiscombe's resistance to his suit. Hearing that she wishes to convert a room in a country cottage into a studio, he fits it up as a nursery, and tempts her with the offer of a key. It is packed with children's toys, and on its walls are such bold mottoes (how could our Censors pass them?) as "May Grace descend upon us," "Be fruitful and multiply," "The more the merrier"—surely an odd method of reconciling even an up-to-date young woman to the prospect of matrimony. Fortunately, Grace possesses a sense of humour and a healthy nature, and, having sufficiently snubbed her suitor, in the end relents.

Mr. Loraine has a part after his own heart in the mercurial-tempered Miles, and rushes through the love-scenes with characteristic energy; while Miss Mabel Love, the Grace of the occasion, whose temperature is supposed to lend the comedy its title, has come back to London a finished actress.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—A. L.—H. P. C.—H. B.—H. C. O'N.—W. N.—Received.

F. E. W.—Too late for notice.

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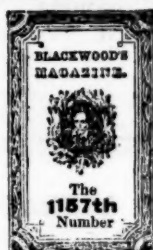
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